

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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God Answers Prayer: Able, Willing, Mighty; Only Sin Can Hinder

By Evangelist John R. Rice

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."—Isaiah 59:1, 2.

Prayer and its answer is one of the chiefest themes of the Bible. The heroes of the Bible were praying men and women. The great events of the Bible are miraculous answers to prayer such as the plagues in Egypt, the crossing of the Red Sea, the sun standing still for Joshua, the great deliverances under the judges, the three-and-one-half years' drought of Elijah, the fire from Heaven on Mount Carmel, the destruction of Sennacherib's army, nearly all the miracles of Jesus, the marvelous revival at Pentecost. The God of the Bible is a prayer answering God.

In great detail the Bible tells about answers to prayer, about conditions of prayer, about hindrances to prayer. So here in Isaiah 59:1, 2 is a classic and moving explanation from God as to why our prayers are not answered. It clears God of any blame when our prayers are not answered. It declares again His unlimited power to answer prayer and His touching eagerness to do so, without any limit, except the limits brought on by sin!

An Unchanging Doctrine

The Bible doctrine of prayer is an unchanging doctrine. Search the Bible through, and whether people address God as the Jehovah of the patriarchs, the Holy One of Israel, the Master, or Lord Jesus Christ when the Saviour was on earth, or the Heavenly Father, as Jesus Himself taught us to call Him, ALWAYS, throughout ALL the Bible, there is one simple, plain doctrine and teaching about

prayer. There are no differences in the conditions of prayer from Genesis to Revelation. There is no difference in the willingness of God, often expressed, to answer prayer the same for penitent, believing hearts.

The immature and unlearned Christian sometimes feels lost in part of the Old Testament. He does not understand the tabernacle in Exodus, nor the sacrifices and feasts of Leviticus. He is often confused by the dispensational differences between law and grace. But when you put a new convert to reading the book of Psalms, the Old Testament book of prayers, then he is perfectly at home!

The experiences of David with God in prayer, whether it be the loving and exultant praise of the 116th or the 103rd Psalm, or the anguished confession and supplication of the 51st Psalm, are as natural and proper and understandable to him as they were to Old Testament saints.

The sacrifices and ceremonies of the Old Testament may seem strange to one who does not understand the change in dispensations, but the prayers of the Old Testament do NOT seem strange, for in respect to prayer, there has been no change in God's teaching on the requirements nor in His loving, eager, willingness to hear and answer the cry of a needy soul!

Any pastor might intercede for a sinning people just as Moses wept before God and begged Him

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THE JUDGMENT

By the late Baxter F. McLendon, Evangelist
Bennettsville, South Carolina

"Prepare to meet thy God."—Amos 4:12.

This is one of the texts of Scripture that startles whenever it faces us. The Jewish government was a theocracy, and therefore, a violation either of the civil or the ecclesiastical law was treason against Almighty God.

Of all sins of Israel there was none that was higher treason against God than was the sin of idolatry and conformity to the nations by whom they were surrounded. Now Israel had backslidden and lost out and had gone off after these strange gods. They had mixed, mingled, and commingled with these surrounding nations; they had violated God's law and had broken His commandments.

Now God speaks through His prophet Amos to those disobedient people and tries to show them something of what had been done in their behalf. He said: "I have called you in the days of your prosperity and you would not repent. I have called you in your adversity and you would not repent; I have called you in peace when there was no enemy at your gate; in the days of peace you would not repent; then when the armies of the enemies came and blood flowed like a river, and you would not repent. I called you in the days of health and you would not repent. I called you in affliction when the plagues were upon you and you would not repent."

Here is a people with whom God exhausted every means of grace. He blockaded every path. He seemed to say, "I have taxed Heaven and there is nothing left but prepare, and that quickly, to meet thy God."

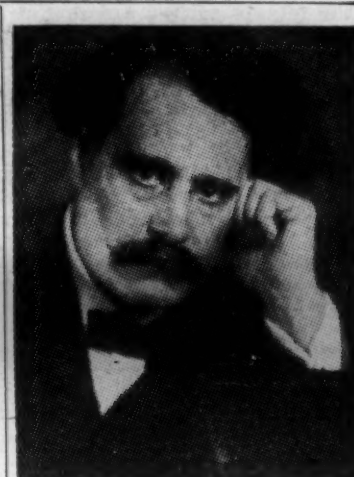
People, just as God dealt with Israel in the long ago, just so God deals with individuals today; just as God called Israel away back in the centuries gone by, He is calling you today. I will not undertake to mention the many ways

in which He calls, because the calls of God to man are as numerous as the stars of Heaven. God has called every man of you who has crossed the line of responsibility.

Some He has called at the family altar; some He has called through the love of Mother; others through the Christian life of Father; many of you men God has called through the love and fidelity of a noble wife. When you see your children as they play around the home, with their round faces and chubby hands, it is a call from God. Yes, He has called you all your life through the voice of the church, through the Sunday School, prayer meeting, reading the Bible, gospel songs, pleading of pastors, and entreaties of evangelists.

Remember it is the great God who made this world, who numbers the hairs of every head, who watches every step of your life and analyzes every motive of our being. He says:

"I have called and you have refused; I have stretched out my



Baxter F. McLendon

hand and no man regarded. But ye have set at naught all my counsel and would none of my reproof. I will also laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh. Ye shall seek me and shall not find me."

Here is God's call and man's refusal, and man's call and God's refusal. Oh, the tragedy of it! Oh, the heartbreak of it! The crime and shame of it! And God will have to say to some of you, "I have gone the limit; I will never

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The Editor in India

Third Day of Revival Blessing

These notes are written Tuesday night, 10:00 p.m., January 10.

It is after the evening service, and I have just had my dinner. My daily schedule is, for meals: tea in my room soon after I wake at 6:00 a.m.; breakfast then about 8:30; hearty lunch, in courses, at 1:30; tea and cakes or sandwich at 5:00; dinner after church about 9:30.

We have morning service 9:00-11:30, including prayer meeting and devotional. Evening service begins at 6:30, runs till after 8:00.

Tonight, Again, the Power of God

This was the third meeting for the general public. Again, the building seating about five hundred was full but for some twenty-five seats. Again, God blessed. The sermons are all interpreted into the Hindi language. I spoke on the prodigal son, and how I did pray for God to help me apply the message. I showed how the boy going into a far country represented every one, and the race as a whole. Adam and Eve first went into the far country. After the flood, according to Romans, chapter 1, the race turned to heathen darkness and idolatry. I showed that that is where the worship of idols, of cattle, of fire, and all the million Hindu gods came from. Men crucified Jesus because they had gone into the far country. So every individual who would not seek Christ is in the far country of sin. Then I pressed home the hog pen of defeat and frustration, the prodigal's coming to his senses, and confession and return and his glorious reception.

Again, people raised their hands admitting that they were lost and wanted to be saved. We prayed. Again, with no song, men and women came forward, each was

taken by a trained worker to read and pray and explain and make the decision clear and assured. I suppose there were fifteen who claimed the Lord tonight. I do not have all the figures since some were still being dealt with when I left.

Matron Brings Nurses to Be Saved

During the song service tonight eight women came in and, in the crowded auditorium, sat on the front row. After the benediction, one charming Indian lady brought the others to meet me. She is matron in a hospital. Six of the girls with her were nurses, I think the other was a friend. These all spoke Marachi language, and the interpretation was only in Hindi. So they did not understand enough to come out during the invitation. They gathered around me eagerly. She asked them a question, all nodded eagerly. "They all want you to pray for them," she said. All dropped to their knees. I prayed and the matron translated my prayer into Marachi language. Then, on our knees, I went around the circle. I asked each one if she knew she was a lost sinner who needed forgiveness. Each one did. Did she understand that Christ died on the cross to save her? Each one did. I made it as clear as I could. Evidently these nurses had already heard the Gospel. Each one eagerly claimed to trust Christ as Saviour. Their faces were glad. I believe they were saved. So, too, was the lady friend.

A Church Official Saved

It is shocking to find that there are multitudes of nominal Christians in India, but that more than half of them are in modernistic

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The National Council of Churches

By Dr. G. Archer Weniger

PART I

The 50th Anniversary of the organized apostasy in the United States was celebrated in the Fifth General Assembly of the National Council of Churches in San Francisco, December 4-9, 1960. This was the largest collection of heretics, modernists, pinks, scoffers, higher critics, false prophets, and religious subversives in the triennium, in spite of the small registration of only 531 voting representatives. It was in 1910 that the Edinburgh Conference was held, an event generally regarded as the beginning of the ecumenical movement. In his decade report, NCC General Secretary, Roy G. Ross, stated: "Fifty years ago, some 1,200 churchmen from all parts of the world representing 159 missionary boards and societies met in Edinburgh in a world missionary conference—the first and still the greatest ecumenical assembly in modern times. There they adopted the goal of 'The Evangelization of the World in this Generation' . . . while it could not be said that the church has made Christians of all nations, it could be said with rejoicing that the church has now become world-wide."

The theme was "Jesus Christ, Living Lord of All Life." What that might mean in terms of a shifting liberal theology I have no idea. The theme Scripture was Colossians 1:15-18, which in the RSV strips this Christ of His creative power, "He is the image of the invisible God, the first born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through him and for him."

The Assembly met in the immediate afterglow of two remarkable ecumenical developments. One was the unprecedented visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury with the Roman Catholic Pope at Rome, breaking a 400-year impasse between these two catholic

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An important resume of the recent General Assembly of the National Council of Churches held in San Francisco. This is the first of two parts.



Dr. G. Archer Weniger, Pastor Foothill Boulevard Baptist Church, Oakland, California; Chairman of the Board of Trustees, San Francisco Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary.

INCIDENTS



and
Illustrations

By
Evangelist Robert L. Sumner,
Contributing Editor

Impish Impulse

Amos James Corley wanted more beer. Since he only had thirty cents in his pocket, he tried to cash a check in a Dallas, Texas, store. He failed. Next he tried to borrow a dollar from the woman clerk. She refused.

On his way home he found a toy pistol and, acting on an impulse, he put a silk stocking over his head for a mask and brandished the toy in the clerk's face and demanded all the money in the till. He got \$60 and fled.

However, Corley was wearing his uniform with his company's name over one pocket and "Amos" over the other. Less than an hour later, police were confronting the frightened amateur bandit—found sitting on his bed with the toy pistol hid under the pillow—and they hastily marched him off to jail.

After the judge had informed him that he would be spending the next 12 years at the Huntsville Penitentiary, Corley commented about his escapade, "A man must be just a little bit crazy."

Why did Corley act so crazy? By his own confession, he had put 10 beers under his belt before he thought of robbery. Proverbs 23:34 describes the insanity that booze produces with the words, "Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast."

The man who was "a little bit crazy" with booze under his belt sounded mighty sage when he was led off to the penitentiary, saying, "No use crying over spilt milk; I've just got to let it dry up. But I'll be dreaming about silk stockings and toy pistols for a long, long time."

The sweetness of sin is mighty short. The bitter fruits of sin last for a long, long time!

Smokers in Knee Pants

A total of 26 per cent—more than one out of every four—of the high school students in America are regular smokers. In addition, about three out of four of all high school smokers have experimented with tobacco at one time or another.

These figures were revealed by the private youth survey organization, Eugene Gilbert & Co., and were based upon a survey of 4,329 students. The survey, made orig-

inally for the American Cancer Society, discovered that this smoking trend on the part of boys and girls is getting worse, with many starting to smoke while in grade school.

Only 28.2 per cent of the students interviewed stated that they had never smoked. Most of the regular smokers—those who smoked daily—said that they had been smoking for a period of one to two years and 22.4 per cent of them admitted they smoke a pack or more of cigarettes every 24 hours.

Parents should be vitally interested in noting that the survey showed that the parents' smoking habits were reflected among the teen-agers. Forty per cent of the high schoolers who smoked had mothers and fathers who both smoked. Thirty-three per cent had only one parent who smoked.

Today's Taxes

The tax "bite" has become a "gobble." Since very few readers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD make more than \$15,000 a year, it is safe to say that nearly everyone reading this article is paying approximately 25 per cent of his earnings back to the government in taxes. One dollar out of every four dollars you earn goes either for federal tax or state and local taxes. So says Tax Foundation Inc., a non-profit private research organization in New York.

At the present time, federal taxes are taking the lion's share of the gobble, but state and local taxes are rising fast in the form of excise, sales and property taxes.

When President Kennedy starts his machinery rolling to fulfill his fantastic campaign give-away promises, it will only be a matter of time before the government lets you keep the dollar they originally took while they take the three dollars they once let you keep!

Money becomes more meaningless with each passing day and the importance of heeding the Saviour's command to "lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven" (Matt. 6:19, 20), becomes more obvious every day.

Ten Commandments Called Unchristian

In England—a land noted for its startling statements by clergymen—an Anglican church minister tossed the Ten Commandments out of his church, saying they were not Christian. Rev. George Wilkins told a reporter, "The commandments give a false impression, especially to young people, that religion is just a series of prohibitions." He especially singled out the second, fourth and tenth commandments as not applying to our present world.

One wonders if the Rev. Mr.

Wilkins is a headline hunter or merely ignorant of the purpose of the law. Paul said:

"Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God."

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin" (Rom. 3:19, 20).

Pray for Evangelist Sumner's meetings:

Feb. 21-March 5:

Olivet Baptist Church
45th & Adams Streets
Kansas City, Kansas

Texas Premillennial Fellowship Meets

The Texas Baptist Premillennial Fellowship will meet at the Galilean Baptist Church of Dallas, February 13-17. Preachers and Christian workers from all over the area are urged to come to this meeting.

Services start Monday evening at 7:00 with Bob Gray and J. Harold Smith preaching at the two services.

Tuesday through Friday services will be held at 10:00 and 11:00 in the morning and 7:00 and 8:00 p.m. Here is the schedule of speakers for those days: Tuesday: Bob Eggars, Bob Gray, J. Harold Smith, and Bob Gray. Wednesday: Lester Roloff, J. Harold Smith, Bob Gray, Lester Roloff. Thursday: Pete McGuire, J. Harold Smith, Jack Hyles, J. Harold Smith. Friday: Johnny Ramsey, Jack Hyles, J. Harold Smith, and Jack Hyles.

For further information about the Fellowship meeting or regarding accommodations, get in touch with the host pastor, Rev. Bob Keyes at Galilean Baptist Church, 201 East Tenth Street, Dallas 3, Texas.



REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

EVANGELIST BOB PERSSON of Route 2, Oak Forest Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, reports several recent meetings. In the Clio Community Chapel, Clio, Iowa, Rev. Bill Whitaker, pastor, there were 3 first-time decisions, 12 decisions for soul winning, and 14 rededication in a meeting held November 20-December 3.

In the Salina Presbyterian Church of Brighton, Iowa, where Rev. Clarence Anderson is pastor, there was 1 first-time decision, 1 received assurance of salvation, and 12 rededications in a meeting held December 4-10.

December 11-17, Brother Persson was in the Bethel Baptist Church of Beloit, Wisconsin, where Rev. Jerome Roberts is the new pastor. There were 8 first-time decisions, 21 rededications and 4 joined the church.

In a one-night meeting held January 1 in the Antioch Baptist Church near Greenville, South Carolina, there were 3 first-time decisions, a number of decisions among young people for full-time service, and 3 rededications.

EVANGELIST ARNOLD O. WILLIS of 405 Linden Circle, Huntington, West Virginia, reports a good meeting held in the First Evangelical United Brethren Church of Huntington, West Virginia. The pastor brought the messages and Rev. Willis handled the music and Bible study. There were 8 saved and 20 rededications during the meeting. Brother Willis held a watch-night service in the Polton Baptist Church of Wallace, North Carolina, with 3 rededications. In the evening service January 1 at the Brookwood Baptist Church of Jacksonville, North Carolina, there were 12 rededications.

EVANGELIST JOE MILLER, Route 1, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, recently closed a meeting



A Column for Wives and Mothers

By Jessie Rice Sandberg



A Word in Season

Once in a while I get the urge to "put on the dog" for my husband when he comes home from work. I'm sure you know the routine. I fix the food he likes best and then add a couple of extra trimmings to make the meal really special. The tablecloth has to be a better-than-everyday one and the centerpiece something more than the artificial flower arrangement that usually sits on my table. I get the house looking spic and span, put the evening paper by his armchair and turn the lights just so—to make everything look inviting and comfortable. After that I put on a fresh dress and fix up a little bit myself and then last of all (for obvious reasons) I clean up the children. The results are usually so satisfying, the evening meal so festive, I end up wondering why I don't go to that extra bit of effort every day.

But then occasionally something goes wrong like it did a couple of weeks ago. The house was in order and the dinner was done. The children, scrubbed and shining, were waiting expectantly at the front window for the sight of Daddy's car coming up the drive. Five o'clock came and went, with no sign of Daddy. By 5:15 the children had given up the vigil and were already pulling out the toys we had put away for the day. At 5:30 I turned off the oven on the roast which was looking a little dry and put the lids back on the already cooling vegetables. The Jello salad which as yet hadn't begun to suffer from the delay was put back into the refrigerator. At six o'clock I was beginning to be a little worried and annoyed that my usually-punctual husband could be so late. At 6:15 the children were becoming disheveled, grumpy and hungry. My dinner looked like last week's left-overs.

I was just conjuring up a mental picture of the wounded expression I would wear... when the door opened, and there stood my husband. Before I had a chance to act offended that my lovely surprise had been ruined, he grinned mischievously and said, "How come dinner isn't on the table?" His boyish and yet shrewd good humor so threw me off guard that I got tickled and that spoiled any intentions I may have had to appear upset! (In fairness to my husband and to all really thoughtful husbands, I must explain that his delay was, after all, a completely unavoidable one!) I warned the less-than-perfect dinner and we all sat down to eat with relish.

There is a special blessing in learning to say the right thing at the right time.

Misunderstandings are healed, arguments are ended, peace is restored, when words are spoken thoughtfully. Proverbs 15:1 says "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger," and then further on in the same chapter, verse 23b adds,

in the Independent Bible Church of Sand Beech, Pennsylvania, where Rev. Harold Hahnen is the pastor. There were 8 conversions and 2 definite rededications.

EVANGELIST BOB FARWELL, P.O. Box 7111, Akron 6 Ohio, held a meeting December 4-21 in the Mentor Plains Gospel Church, Mentor, Ohio. Good work comes from the pastor, Rev. W. B. Musselman, that 26 people were saved, 9 rededicated their lives and there were many other decisions among Christians for soul winning tithing and Christian service. Four young families and others totaling eighteen came into the membership of the church Sunday, January 15, as a result of the meeting.

"... a word spoken in due season, how good it is!"

My husband has another choice comment he uses on me when the occasion demands it. After I've been up half the night with sick or wakeful children, he sometimes greets me at breakfast with a cheerful, "My, but you're looking beautiful from such a good night of sleep!" Of course we both know I look bleary-eyed and exhausted but that little bit of foolishness helps to get my day started right.

I know a young lady who has a way of stopping gossip dead in its tracks just by the way she answers when anybody is discussed critically in her presence. If someone complains about what a terrible housekeeper Mrs. So-and-so is, she adds quickly, "Oh, but have you ever noticed how much she does for her neighbors?" If the pastor is taken to task because he neglected his weekly visit to some ailing church member, she will say, "But did you realize how many unsaved people he visited last week?"

Some people say, "Well, I could never be a soul winner because I don't have the gift of gab," when actually the thing which brings a person to the Lord is usually not a quantity of well-chosen phrases. People who seek to win the lost by a great display of biblical knowledge probably will do nothing more than impress a lost sinner with his learning. How much better to offer "a word fitly spoken"—a simple and urgent invitation to accept Christ given with the Holy Spirit's power.

And then there are times when no word at all is better than any number of choice explanations. When we were growing up and had disobeyed our folks or had gotten into trouble of some kind or another, my dad used to say, "No alibis will excuse doing wrong." For some reason we always thought "Explaining why" would make it all right. That temptation isn't limited to children. If you've ever done personal work in jails or prisons you know that practically every man there will say, "It wasn't really my fault..." Isn't it strange that we all want to justify our actions as though a multitude of words could make our black hearts pure!

Occasionally I find myself yelling at my children or trying to argue them into behaving when perhaps a brief but in-earnest spanking would be twice as effective and half as painful for all of us! There is a real value in learning what it means to speak a word "in due season."

Let's give our manner of speech a good going-over, shall we?

"Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man."—Colossians 4:6.

We also note from I Corinthians 10:13 that God will not permit us to be tempted beyond our power of resistance. He is faithful. He will not let the Devil bring to any child of God any temptation or trial that the child of God cannot bear. God always prepares a way of escape. We tell our students in Bob Jones University that sometimes one of the escapes that God gives us is two legs so we can run. We are not told to run from the Devil. We are told to resist the Devil, and he will flee from us. No man can run from the Devil. The Devil can outrun any man who ever lived. We are, however, told to flee youthful lusts. We are to run from appetites and passions and the weaknesses of the flesh. If we do not avoid the appearance of evil and if we deliberately expose ourselves to the temptations of the flesh, we always fall into sin. We should flee from temptations of the flesh. Remember, there is no temptation but what there is a way of escape.—Bob Jones, Sr.



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The Story Of Super --- Chapter 3

Guilty Conscience !!

With a Tiger's Appetite, a Cast-iron Stomach Along With Government Rationing - - The Going Was Bound to Be Hard on Super.

By Evangelist Bill Rice

Bill Rice Ranch, Franklin Road, Murfreesboro, Tennessee



WHEN SUPER WAS HALF GROWN BETTY WAS SIX AND KAY WAS ALMOST THREE.

Ellis Zehr is always saying, "There is more love in a dog's tail than in a woman's heart."

I do not know if that is true or not but it is certainly true that you could always tell Super's mood by his tail. When he was in a happy mood he would wag his caudal appendage with such vigor that one soon learned not to stand within its reach. He made our youngsters cry more than once when he whacked them with his tail.

His tail would also be a dead give-away if he felt guilty about something. Many, many times we knew he had been up to some mischief by watching his reaction when we approached him. If he had been into something that he knew was wrong, he would go into a ritual more solemn than an Episcopal service at Easter. His ears would droop, he would begin to swallow and swallow and swallow, he would turn his face the other direction but still glance at you from the corner of his eye and he would carefully curl his tail to his side and very carefully and slowly sit down. He would sit as though he were sitting on a nest of eggs.

Soukup's Hardware

One day Super and I went into Mr. Soukup's hardware store in Wheaton. Usually I would have him sit down and wait outside. But this was a cold, blustery winter day and I let him go in with me. Right inside the door I stopped and said, "Sit down, Super, and stay right here." He loved to go to town and was in a high good humor. Obediently he sat down and began to look and smell all over the place. I went on back to select the electrical outlet I had come in to buy.

Unfortunately, I had not noticed three small tables just loaded with little glass dolls and figurines and other bric-a-brac. Evidently Mr. Soukup didn't see them, either. But he did see the giant dog and walked up to shoot the breeze with him. Reaching down to shake hands with the 155 pound Dane, Mr. Soukup boomed, "Hi ya." Super not only vigorously returned the handshake but promptly stood up to return the friendly greeting. Unfortunately, he never could greet anyone with just one end! It was also unfortunate that his back end was aimed at one of the tables loaded with the aforementioned glass whatnots.

There was a swish and swoosh of his tail and little glass men and women and dogs and horses and roosters went sailing on every side. With a cry of alarm Mr. Soukup grabbed the dog's collar and pulled him a few steps to one side. This was definitely a mistake because now his back

end was pointing straight at the second table and Super cleaned that one in a jiffy, too. Frantically the man gave the dog's collar another yank and I'll behanged if Super's other end wasn't pointing right at the third table! Again there was the swishing and swooshing and a third shower of cute little figurines!

Neighbor, I lie not—those three tables were as bare as old Mother Hubbard's cupboard. Even more incredible, every single, solitary one of those glass objects was broken to pieces.

Of course when I heard the first crash of glass I ran to the front of the store and said, "Super, I told you to sit down." Immediately he went into his hang-dog, swallowing, easy-sitting routine.

I helped Mr. Soukup pick up broken glass for the next half-hour and then offered to pay for the damage. But he said he didn't want me to pay for anything. It was his fault and anyway he was glad to get rid of the stuff. He just wished, he said, that folks made their children behave as well as the big dog.

"And don't you feel bad about it, Big Fellow?" Mr. Soukup said turning to Super. "You didn't intend to break the stuff, did you?"

Soukup's voice was so jovial that Super knew he was forgiven. With a bark of joy he jumped to his feet and—you will never, never believe this—hit a vase so hard it flew across the room in a dozen pieces!

The dumb ox was looking the other way and swallowed hard and doing his slow and easy sit-down routine as I paid damages.

And It Was Real Butter, Too!

One evening we were entertaining guests for supper. It was a rather important occasion and we were really putting on the dog. The Princess had warned the children and me to be on our good behavior and the meal had been prepared with unusual care.

The boys and I were entertaining the company in our large living room and the girls were helping their mother set the table when Super scratched at the back door. Kaye opened the door and the big dog walked across one corner of the dining room, passed the table and on into the living room. Our guests had their back to him and since we were busy talking no one paid much attention to the big dog. A moment later Cathy came in to call us to the table, and when she got one look at Super she knew something was wrong. There he sat, swallowing to beat sixty, acting as though he were sitting on a red-hot stove and looking the other

direction while watching her out of the corner of his eye.

"Super, what have you been up to?" she demanded.

Of course he didn't answer but Kaye did. "Oh, he just ate the butter as he passed the table," she brightly announced.

It was all too true. As he had walked past the corner of the table he had picked up an entire pound of butter and swallowed it in one gulp. It was the only time in his whole life we ever knew him to do a thing like that.

Incidentally, our guests promptly lost their appetites. I have never known people to eat so little of my lovely wife's cooking!

Blue and Red Turtles

During a revival campaign in New York City I bought four live turtles from a souvenir shop. Each one was about the size of a penny match box and their shells were painted bright red and blue colors. I had them paint Betty's name on one, Kay's on another, Bill's on the third and Pete's on the fourth. Then I mailed them to the youngsters.

For some reason Super was simply fascinated with these gaily colored little creatures. At first he would sit and watch them walk around in their bowl. Then he began taking them out. Very gently he would lift one of them out and then go some place and lie down and tenderly put the little turtle between his great paws. He would lie there and watch that turtle ever so long.

But the youngsters were afraid he was going to hurt their pets and they demanded that he leave them alone. So I waited until the next time Super went to get a turtle and I scolded him good and told him not to bother the turtles any more. I think he obeyed me for a while but, like little children, he "forgot." Ever so often he would sneak in and take one of the turtles from the bowl. Not daring to put it between his paws lest we should see it, that silly dog would walk around all over the place with one of the little turtles hidden in his mouth! It's a thousand wonders he never swallowed one, but he didn't. Sometimes when he thought no one was watching he would gently put the turtle on the floor and watch it for a few minutes and then pick it up and tuck it safely back in his mouth again.

This eventually led to the death of all four of the turtles. Not that he ever bit one of them because he never did. But if he ever happened to walk past one of us with a turtle in his mouth and we spoke to him, a look of supreme guilt would come over his face, his ears would droop, he would begin swallowing hard while looking the other direction and tenderly sitting down! Then the screwball would open his mouth and let the turtle come rolling out to plunk on the floor! It was the fall that eventually caused their shells to crack so that they died.

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Shoes and Bathtub Stoppers

Super had the most voracious appetite of any creature I've ever known. He ate just about anything and everything. He was no health faddist—he thought everything was good for him. He ate dog meal—hot, cold, wet or dry. He ate burned toast, soured milk, spoiled sardines and drank dish-water. He ate at least one red-hot-water bottle. I bought Kaye a pair of white rubber over-boots and the screwball ate all of one and was down to the sole of the other when we caught him. The Princess saved for a couple of months to buy a new pair of shoes and Super ate the front off both of them before she ever got to wear them a single time.

But when he ate the rubber stoppers—that did it!

When we moved into the house in Wheaton there were no stoppers for the sinks or bathtub. It was during the closing months of the war and anything made of rubber was scarce. We would use washcloths to plug up the drains in the bathtub and sinks to hold water.

Then one day Mr. Soukup informed me he had just received a new shipment of stoppers and I rushed to the store. I didn't know what size I needed so I bought a stopper of each size for our three built-in washtubs, one bathtub and four lavatories.

Mr. Soukup dropped them into a paper sack and I hurried home. I dropped the bag of stoppers on a chair in the living room while I went into the hall to hang up my top coat and call Cathy. But when I took her into the living room to show her the sack of stoppers, they were gone! We questioned the children and none of them had seen them. Noticing the basement door open we rushed down there and what do you think we saw? There in one corner sat ole Man's-Best-Friend. When he saw us he quickly looked the other way and began swallowing to beat the band. His ears were drooping, his tail curled tight against his hind leg and he looked for all the world like he was sitting on a garden rake. In front of him was the torn paper bag. He had eaten every single one of those stoppers—including the ones I was supposed to return if they did not fit!

I was not at all provoked. I was boiling mad! I felt like ramming my hand down his throat, grabbing him by the tail and pulling him wrong side out. It did not help any when Cathy reminded me that the "poor dog" thought anything in a paper sack was candy. I felt the knothead should at least know the difference between chocolate drops and rubber stoppers.

I hawled Super out good and proper. Among other things I told him he could stay in the basement but the rest of the house was off limits and I didn't want to see him in the living quarters again. The big fellow was absolutely crushed and heartbroken and I left him sitting miserably, if tenderly, in the corner.

That night, sitting in the living room, none of the family mentioned Super. I loved the big dog and missed him and had just about decided to go downstairs and make up with him when little Kaye stepped through the door and the big dog came behind her. Both stood there for a minute and then Kaye began to cry.

"He was lonesome in that old basement, Daddy," Kaye sobbed. "And he's sorry he ate those old stoppers. They didn't taste very good anyway. He doesn't want you to be mad at him. Daddy, he wants to be friends again."

"It's all right, Sam," I told her. The big dog looked at me silently for a few moments and then slowly walked up in front of my chair. His ears drooped and he began swallowing as he gingerly sat down. His face had that "I know I done wrong but please don't shoot" expression.

I didn't say a word and presently he scooted a few inches closer. Then he moved still closer and closer to me. I still didn't say a word and he cocked his head sideways, looking puzzled. Then he stretched out his head and licked my hand resting on the arm of the chair.

"Here, Boy," I said. Instantly there was a bass-voiced woof as 155 pounds of dog tried to climb into my lap!

After eating a rip-roaring big pan of dog food he romped with the children until it was their bedtime. Then I practiced calf

roping with him (he was the calf) until it was time for Cathy and me to go to bed.

After we went to bed that night I pondered the fact that sin can break our fellowship with those we love the best, and unconfessed sin can even separate us from our Heavenly Father.

A Man, a Maid and a Garden

Many, many, many years ago a wonderful young married couple lived in a beautiful place. He was the finest, the best and most handsome young man in all the world. She was the most beautiful and best of all the women.

Their names were Adam and Eve and they had just come fresh from the hand of God.

They were very much in love and everything that was good and beautiful was theirs. They lived in a beautiful place called the Garden of Eden. The wild animals were their friends. Not wild animals, for all the beasts of the forest were tame. The lion and the deer rubbed noses in friendly greeting as they met at the fountain. Adam and Eva knew all the beasts by name and neither man nor animal had fear of the other.

They ate the delicious food that grew in the garden, bathed in crystal pools and slept each night on a bed of roses.

Best of all, the Lord God came each day to walk with them in the garden.

They loved their Heavenly Father with all their hearts. His every word was a delight to them. When evening was near and the Lord told them goodnight, I believe they begged Him to stay just a little longer. When Adam and Eve stood hand in hand and watched their Heavenly Father leave the garden, I believe they said to one another, "Don't you wish He would stay right here with us every minute! I do hope He will come earlier tomorrow."

But there came a day when "they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself" (Gen. 3:8-10).

Adam and Eve loved the Lord—yet they ran and hid from Him! Why in the world did they do that? What had happened?

They had sinned, that's what had happened! They had disobeyed God. They had eaten something that God had told them to leave alone. They had deliberately done something they knew was wrong. And it robbed them of their joy, destroyed their peace and broke their fellowship with their God.

Good neighbor, sin always does that. If you have lost the joy of your salvation, I urge you to have your fellowship with your Heavenly Father restored by turning from and confessing your sins.

The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Dr. Bob Jones
SAYS:



I quote from a letter received from an alumnus who lives on the West Coast: "I thank God for the vision He gave you years ago to found the school. You remember, Dr. Bob, it was there that I found Christ as my Saviour and there that I met my wife. We are also thankful that God has preserved the testimony of the school through these years and that we now have the privilege of having two of our girls there with you."

Now, my friends, I am asking you to do three things to help us carry on the work of Bob Jones University. First: Pray for us daily. I do not mean for you to pray a little "now-I-lay-me-down-to-sleep"

prayer, but I mean for you to really pray. Second: Keep your eyes open for the right kind of young people who can be trained for real Christian leadership and tell them about Bob Jones University; and if it is possible, we will make room for them. Third: We want you to help us financially. The operating overhead is increasing all the time, and we really need your help. Please let us hear from you. Thank you, and God bless you.

BOB JONES, FOUNDER
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
GREENVILLE, S. C.

(Advertisement)

The Editor in India

(Continued from page 1)

churches, never heard the true Gospel, are not saved. The Anglican Church is strong. Methodism here is as modern, liberal, and unbelieving as in the North at home. The poison of Bishop Oxnam, of Buttrick, of Fosdick, of Ferre has brought death here. One would certainly be foolish to expect mission work bossed by infidels to turn out converts on the mission field. Every night some are saved who are church members, but never heard "ye must be born again."

Tonight after the service was dismissed, Missionary Jake Johnson, principal of Berean Bible Institute, brought to me a man who is a church official. Johnson said, "Brother Rice, this man is a friend, a church official who helped us get one of the buildings we are using. I noticed that he could not hold his hand when you asked all who had been born again to show it. Then he held his hand that he was not saved and wanted to be." I went over the whole plan of salvation with him, Scripture by Scripture. Then we prayed and he took my hand in solemn acceptance of Jesus as Saviour. He was glad; he was sure! He is, I suppose, past fifty. I suppose six or eight came to the front, then went with workers. Several others waited in the auditorium, and soul winning went on for a half hour, perhaps, there. Praise the Lord for blessing! Oh, for a flood tide!

Many Invitations

Today an urgent invitation came to be speaker at the inauguration of the St. Thomas Evangelical Church of India. The famous St. Thomas Church, said to have been founded by the Apostle Thomas, was long evangelical in doctrine. Since 1947 a modernistic metropolitan bishop has been in charge. They have put in modernistic bishops, and evangelicals do not now feel they can stay in that church. The bishop is now one of the presidents of the World Council of Churches. Evangelicals plan to inaugurate the new church January 24 at Kerala. I wish I could speak and remain for days as requested, but must return home.

At Colombo, Ceylon (a separate nation on a big island south of India), a large congregation asked me to come for revival. I could not go.

A delegation is here now from a great congregation at Hyderabad where it was urged that I come, but I could not.

National pastors, workers from nearly all over this great nation are here to be blessed, to learn. Two lay preachers, one a retired judge, the other a government petroleum inspector of note, are here, and asked to talk with me again tomorrow.

Try to Win a Jewish Family Tomorrow

Tomorrow night I am to have dinner with a Jewish family, eight young people. The father is saved, hopes we may win wife and grown children.

Beloved, and longed for, please pray for me.

(Later notes written Thursday 5:45 p.m., January 12, at Bombay, India.)

22 Professions of Faith Last Night

Brother Jake Johnson, missionary director of Berean Bible In-

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stitute who directs the counselors and the inquiry room, tells me there were twenty-two professions of faith last night in the Hume High School services of the revival. I am so grateful to God that blessed results are showing up even in the first few days of the campaign. One woman saved was a fire-worshipping Parsi. Most of those claiming Christ were men, a few women, perhaps two or three teen-agers. All were dealt with faithfully, some for nearly an hour, by serious missionaries or other trained workers.

Oh, I thank God that despite the difficulties of using an interpreter, the heathen darkness in many minds, and the bad effects of widespread modernism among professed Christians and preachers, the Word of God, Spirit-filled preaching, witnessing, and prevailing prayer will bring a great revival and many souls won anywhere. God's way in revival that has worked all over America, works in India the same.

I preached last night on Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin." You can be sure that anywhere the straight, hard Bible preaching on sin and its punishment is pertinent. It fits here as well as at home. I was conscious of the breath of God upon me. The interpreter, too, Mr. Jordan Khan, was filled with the Spirit.

One young man saved last night went home and was beaten unconscious by his brother. He appeared this morning still anxious to go on with the Lord, with a bandage around his head. (He was locked out of his home, I understand.)

A Deepening Burden on the Part of Christians

Through the conference last week and the morning services this week, I have been preaching on soul winning and the power of the Holy Spirit. God has been working in many hearts. A number have been confessing their sins, particularly in prayerlessness and lack of soul winning. My interpreter has spent many hours in prayer. Afternoons there are three hours of visiting, giving out 20,000 handbills. There will be a street meeting in front of the auditorium (on a very, very busy street) at 6:00 before the service at 6:30. Tonight beginning at 10:00 we will have a half night of prayer.

Later: After Thursday Night's Meeting

Now it is nearly 11:00 p.m. Tonight again there was a blessed moving of God's Spirit in the service. I preached on "The Last Judgment." The crowd was the largest we have had, I was told. The committee tells me there were more claiming Christ tonight than last night; I do not know how many. After many had risen and gone with workers to the inquiry room for instruction, I told the people that any others who wanted help to come to Christ should remain seated after the benediction. A woman brought two women who had come to claim Christ tonight, but she had not been able to lead them to the perfect assurance they should have. The interpreter helped and we all prayed together, and after Scriptures they both thanked God for salvation and went away happy. Then I looked about and saw in the auditorium people dealing with nine or ten others. A group of women knelt together as one showed others how to trust Christ. Near the front Brother Jordan Khan, Indian preacher and interpreter, knelt with an old gray-headed man. Others knelt, two by two, a worker with a sinner.

The personal work went on for an hour and fifteen minutes after the service. A woman trained as a Jehovah's Witness argued, struggled long. I am grateful to faithful soul winners who believe in thorough work with the Bible to establish converts and give them assurance through the Word.

Jews in India

Last night I ate a late dinner with a Jewish family. The father only is saved, and I think one son-in-law. The room was crowded. They had eleven of us missionaries and workers for the meal, and we ate while the twenty-five or so children, grandchildren and in-laws gathered about us, served

us, insisted we eat more, and seemed greatly blessed that we were there. I suppose they ate before we came in at 9:00 p.m. from church. I enjoyed talking with them, talked with each one about the Lord, sang to them. They are a lovable people, and I think they love me. Most of them promised to be at church tomorrow night, several promised to ask God to save them in secret prayer. I hope to see many of them saved.

The food was good; some so hot that I had cramps for a while today.

These Jews are dark like others in India. They came to India, it is believed, from Babylon after the Jewish captivity. They have, all these centuries, maintained the Jewish Sabbath, eat no pork, and observe the ceremonial law, though they have had no Old Testament. Now they read it eagerly.

Help us. Who will take a quota of 25 or 50 or 100 subscriptions at a club rate?

Please write and tell me.

SATURDAY,
JANUARY 14, 1961

"The Four Biggest Fools in Bombay" Was Sermon Subject Last Night

This note is written Saturday noon, January 14. Last night we had another service of great blessing. I preached, with an interpreter, one hour and ten minutes on those four fools. 1. Who says there is no God (Ps. 14:1); 2. Who is slow to believe the Bible (Luke 24:25-27); 3. Who makes light of sin (Prov. 14:9); 4. Who neglects salvation (Luke 12:16-21). God pressed me to challenge an unbeliever and one of another religion, an infidel, that he could know beyond a doubt that the Bible is true and Christ the only Saviour. The attention was profound. After the service I met a Catholic man and wife who had been brought by Mrs. Cunningham, a missionary. They had met on shipboard once. They first held hands as Christians, then, seemingly not sure, held hands for prayer. It was a joy to talk to them and lead them to claim Christ as Saviour. I trust the Lord did a great work of grace in their darkened hearts. They plan to come back. One Parsi man was saved last night, Hindus and others.

"Guest of Honor" at Dinner

Now I have just come from the luncheon or dinner given in my honor at Victoria Gardens Church. They have supplied modest accommodations free for Christian workers from far and near, coming to be in these services. So they regularly feed a good number. But they wanted me as a special guest today. Forty of us Christian workers sat at the improvised tables, including the committee for the John R. Rice Evangelistic Campaign. All the others were served rice and curry, that is, rice with spiced hot meat in it. Each one was served about as much as a good family would eat back home. But since this was the meal, they ate it, all of it in most cases, with some second helpings. ALL ate with the fingers, missionaries and all, as is the custom! The rice and meat stew with curry powder makes sticky fingers.

But I was guest of honor. For me they had a whole roasted chicken, had a knife, fork, and spoon! Before the meal began a garland of flowers was put about my neck. They had for me also steamed or baked cabbage. All had a small bowl of hot slaw, as I did. It was hot with red pepper. The chicken, like all chickens in India, was not as tender as we have but it was delicious.

Tonight's sermon announced is "The Criminal Who Wanted a Second Chance," the dying thief. May the breath of God be upon us, to save many over the week end. I find great joy in Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth," these days. I am so glad the promise is specifically just as good for "the uttermost part of the earth." India, as at home. Praise God the Gospel is still the power of God anywhere.

JANUARY 15

God Continues to Save 20 to 30 Nightly in Bombay

Although the first week takes some time in a revival effort to revive the Christians, get soul winning going, and preach conviction into sinners, we rejoice in the more than a hundred recorded conversions during the first eight days of the Bombay campaign. Now for the last four days we have had from twenty to thirty professions of faith each night in Hume High School auditorium. Others have been saved outside.

We do not make it easy. I make the preaching sharp and plain, warning with many Scriptures. The invitation is clearly repeated again and again. Then people are asked to stand publicly to receive Christ as Saviour. Then a trained worker goes with each one to the inquiry room.

Catholics, Jews, Hindus, Parsis, Modernists, Anglicans Being Saved

Saturday night a Jewish man and wife were saved, another Jewish woman then came and claimed Christ in the inquiry room. Last night (Sunday night) another Jewish man and wife, very intelligent, tarried to talk to me, deeply distressed, I think convicted. I had preached on "What Shall I Do Then With Jesus?" The man said to me, "A man doesn't like to say he is against Jesus Christ and hates Him, but you made me say it. You said it had to be one or the other, and asked those who love Him to stand. That makes me say I hate Him. I feel badly about that." He insisted there were many good Jews, but I told him it was not a case of meeting human standards to be saved, but God knows the heart, and only by Christ's righteousness is anyone good enough for Heaven. He promised to pray to the true God, the God of Abraham, for light. I showed him that Abraham "believed in the Lord; he counted it to him for righteousness" (Gen. 15:6).

We have had several Catholics saved, Parsis (fire worshipers), Hindus, one prominent Anglican Church official, etc.

We are earnestly praying for greater blessing this closing week.

Pray, Please, for Heavy Burdens at Home

God willing, I leave here Sunday night, January 22, arrive home the next night. (That will be 11½ hours later here than in Wheaton.) There are heavy burdens waiting me. Mail piled up to be answered, radio broadcasts to make on recording tapes, books to get in print, the annual board meeting, contest sermons to judge, the great Winston-Salem conference on soul winning. I am praying God will have at hand money to pay up the radio bills, much of the deficit in free literature, and money to publish new editions for several books. I must have the power, the wisdom of God. Please, I beg you, pray for this editor and THE SWORD. We need many partners who will accept a quota of a club of subscriptions, twenty-five or fifty or more, at lowest club rates.

I hope to have more blessed news of great revival, many saved next time.

JANUARY 17

A Half Night of Prayer for the Revival

Last night (Wednesday, January 18), we had, I think, the poorest response of any night of the evangelistic services. I think there were eight or nine professions of faith; for them we thank God, but that was much less than usual. But we had a half night of prayer lasting till 12:30 a.m., or more, waiting on God for His power, and we trust He will pour out His power in greater measure than before.

Thousands in Bombay Without Homes

Last night as we left the Victoria Gardens Church about 1:00 a.m., I saw nine people sleeping on the sidewalk in front of the church. Each was rolled in a thin blanket or cotton cloth. In the same block I could see perhaps twenty others sleeping on the sidewalk. When we came to the apart-

ment I found four people sleeping on the floor of the hallway of this fine apartment building. I am told there are a hundred thousand homeless, sleeping on the streets and in doorways each night. Many I saw were women and children. Some have jobs, but can find no rooms to rent in the crowded city of 4½ million people. There are many beggars who assail one on the streets.

Here are culture and ignorance, wealth and poverty. Streets are crowded with streetcars and buses, mostly double-deckers, and with cars, but also with hand pushcarts and bullock carts, far more bul-

(Continued on page 12)

RED TERROR IN MALAYA



—Shocking Thaipusam Festival

—The deep spiritual need of Southeast Asia's political hotbed of unrest

—Jungle search for Communist guerrillas

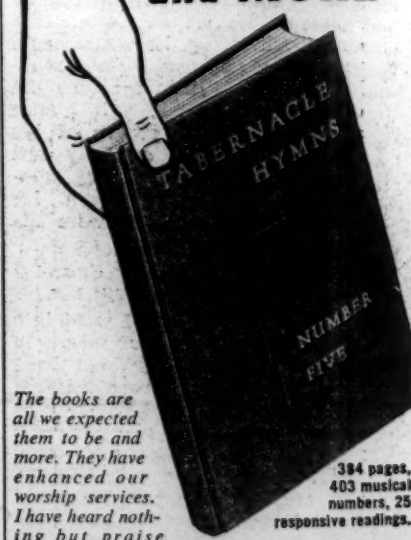
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God Answers Prayer

(Continued from page 1)

to spare Israel after they had made the golden calf. Abraham's prayer for the safety of Lot, his family and the city of Sodom is no different from the prayer of many a father or mother for their children, neighbor for neighbor, or brother for brother. My own surrender to the ministry was patterned after Isaiah's.

On the matter of prayer, the Bible has one touching doctrine, and the God of the Bible is unchangeably the God who answers prayers on the same unchangeable conditions.

Man Alone Is to Blame for Unanswered Prayer

In the verses with which we began this article, God is speaking in His own defense. Man likes to say that our God was not willing to hear, or that God will not interrupt the course of nature. Man has many excuses for unanswered prayer, but in reality there is only one fundamental reason when men do not pray and do not get the answer when they do pray. Whether God so turns His face away that men do not feel Him near enough to reach by prayer, or whether they beg long and He refuses to give what they ask, it is always the same—SIN separates between God and man and hides God's face so that He will not hear.

God's hand is not shortened that He cannot save. God wants to be known as a great Saviour with great power. Dozens of times in the Bible when He encourages people to pray and promised to answer their prayers, God insisted that there was no limit to His power and that all this power was available to answer the cry of all His saints.

When Abraham and Sarah had begged God for a son and finally when they were ninety and a hundred years old, too old to have children according to the course of nature, God promised a son. When they doubted, God answered back with touching eagerness to be trusted, and said, "Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child which am old? Is there anything too hard for the Lord?" (Gen. 18:13, 14).

When Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, besieged Jerusalem, God promised Jeremiah that houses and fields and vineyards should be possessed again in the land of Israel, and the inspired prophet was led to pray and declare, "Ah, Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee!" (Jer. 32:17).

In the same chapter God replied and revealed to Jeremiah that the city would be taken and Israel carried captive but that one day the children of Israel would be regathered to their own land for the kingdom of Christ on earth. God said to Jeremiah, "Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there anything too hard for me?" (Jer. 32:27).

God's arm is not short. How anxious God is for His people to know that He has plenty of power to answer prayer without limit! His arm is not shortened that it cannot save, and His ear is not heavy that it cannot hear.

In the next chapter, Jeremiah 33:3, the Lord commands and promises, "Call unto me, and I will

answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." God is anxious that no one believe His arm is short when it comes to answering prayer or that there is anything so hard and so big that God either cannot or will not give it.

In Psalms 81:10 the Lord encourages us to pray with this wonderful statement: "I am the Lord thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt: open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it." When men do not believe that God is willing to answer prayer, or that He is unable to answer prayer to any extent, they do not open their mouths wide enough to please God. The dear Lord is so eager to bless His people that He beseeches us to open our mouths wide when we pray! His arm is not short, no shorter than it was when he brought the Children of Israel out of Egypt. His ear is not heavy, no more heavy than when He heard the cry of saints throughout the Bible.

When our prayers are not answered, it is not because they are too big, it is not because they ask too much, it is not because God cannot or will not answer such big prayers. The prayers that please God most are the prayers that say, "Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee," the prayers that open our mouths wide to receive great and mighty things from God!

How definite, how insistent are God's promises that we pray big prayers! God never wants us to believe that He is a little God or that He is limited to doing little things. He never wants us to believe that His arm is shortened or His ear heavy. He urges us when we pray to ask "the desires of thine heart" (Ps. 37:4), "whatsoever he saith" (Mark 11:23), "what things soever ye desire" (Mark 11:24), "what ye will" (John 15:7). He insists that if we ask we shall receive, if we seek we shall find, if we knock it shall be opened unto us (Matt. 7:7). He assures us that we have not simply because we ask not (James 4:2). He promises us "whatsoever," literally "anything" (John 14:13, 14). He urges us to "ask and ye shall receive that your joy may be full" (John 16:23).

Dear reader, if you do not get your prayers answered, it is certainly not the fault of God but your own sin. God's arm is not shortened that it cannot save, neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear. Our God is a great God, and a God who delights to show His greatness in answering prayers.

"Prayer Changes Things"

God's hand is not shortened and His ear is not heavy. Therefore, if not hindered by sin, prayer really changes things. Isaiah 59:1, 2 plainly teaches that God really works wonders in answer to prayer; that in answer to unhindered prayer, God changes anything that needs changing.

God's hand is not shortened by the limitations of nature. He can cause it to rain when the wind or clouds are not right for rain. He can heal the sick when there is no human chance for recovery. I verily believe that there are many people now living who were appointed to die, but whose lives were prolonged and even the plan of God changed in answer to prayer. Certainly that was so in the case of King Hezekiah who was "sick unto death" but God gave him fifteen more years! Prayer can change the course of nature and work a miracle.

Prayer can change even the plan of God. And if prayer can change God, it can change anything else. There is no limit to what prayer can bring if it be unhindered by sin. Nature, ignorance, disease, poverty, even the previous plans of God cannot hinder prayer, provided only that there be no sin to turn away the face of God or separate between us and Him. One who comes without sin in the way will ask only what God will be pleased to give. Some things it would be a sin to ask and some ways of asking would be sinful,

but God's arm is not shortened nor limited nor hindered in any case in the world by the bigness of our prayers. But, oh, how much He is grieved and offended and limited by the littleness and the faithlessness of our small and inconsequential praying!

The Age of Miracle Is Not Past

Is Isaiah 59:1, 2 still true? Is God's arm now shortened? Is His ear now heavy? Would any reader say that the arm of God which could not be shortened in time past is now shortened after the days of the apostles closed? Is there one who would say that the ear of God is now heavy that He cannot hear some prayers, that He wills to limit Himself in the matter of answering prayer, in a way that He never did in Bible times? That is not the teaching of the Bible! We are told plainly that Jesus Christ is "the same yesterday, today and forever."

I think we may properly interpret this Scripture to mean that the arm of God can never be shortened and His ear can never be heavy in the matter of prayer. With God there is one eternal present. The nature of God does not change. His power does not change. His mercy does not change. His love for sinners does not change. His willingness, then, to answer prayer, born of His power and love and mercy, cannot change! This Scripture plainly means that there is never any dispensational change in God's power or willingness to answer prayer in any degree. Then if God could ever work miracles in answer to prayer, He can and does do the same today.

God could change some ceremonial matter when the type was fulfilled. The Jewish diet is not required of New Testament Christians. The Old Testament priesthood was fulfilled in Christ and the bloody offerings were fulfilled in His crucifixion. But answering prayer is a part of the nature of God, demanded by His power, His love and His unceasing hunger to bless men. In that, God cannot change. As the great Dr. Blanchard well said, "If there be a God, then He must act like a God." If there is a God whose arm is not shortened and whose ear is not heavy, then He must answer prayer without limit today, when sin does not prevent, just as His nature and loving heart demanded that He do in the days of Isaiah and all the other saints of the Bible.

The idea that God has now limited Himself, shortened His hand or made heavy His ear so that He no more works miracles is an idea utterly foreign to the Bible. Not a verse teaches anything of the kind. It is a theory born of unbelief, an excuse for sin.

Why Most Christians Never See Miracles

Why do most Christians not expect great answers to prayer? Because they never had such answers to prayer! Why do many Christians not believe in miracles? Because they have not prayed and gotten miracles from

God! And many people ask, "If God can work miracles the same as He ever did, if the age of miracles is not past [as it certainly is not], then why do they not see miracles?" The answer is clearly given in this Scripture. They fail to see great miraculous answers to prayer, not because God's hand is shortened nor because His ear is heavy BUT BECAUSE OF THEIR SINS! "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear!"

Unbelief always follows other sins. The Christian who begins to doubt his conversion has first grown worldly and cold, has been in bad company, has indulged in some grievous thing that offended the Holy Spirit of God and lost fellowship with the Father. The lost man who becomes an infidel and does not believe there is a God, gets that way after he has followed a course of pride and worldliness and exalted himself above God. Other sins naturally bring on unbelief, so Christians doubt that God can or will give miraculous answers to prayer. Their sin has hindered their prayers and God has not been able to prove Himself as He would like.

Oh, how many marvels we would see if our sins were out of the way so we could truly believe God and open our mouth wide so that He might fill it!

Sins That Hinder Our Prayers

The Bible makes much of this thought that sins hinder our prayers. In Proverbs 15:8 we are told:

"The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; but the prayer of the upright is his delight."

In the same chapter, verse 29 says:

"The Lord is far from the wicked; but he heareth the prayer of the righteous."

In I Peter 3:12 the same truth is stated again as follows:

"For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil."

It is sin that hinders prayer!

The Bible mentions some specific sins that hinder prayer. In I Peter 3:1-7 we are told of the duties of wives to their husbands and of husbands to their wives, and then the incentive given for wives to be subject to their husbands and for husbands to give honor to their wives is "that your prayers be not hindered" (I Pet. 3:7). Sin in the home, sin of the husband toward the wife or the wife to the husband hinders prayer.

Dear reader, check up and find if your home is pleasing God. Too often our prayers, whether public or private, are blocked by the secret sins of the home. The rebellious wife and the unkind or unfaithful husband will certainly find their prayers hindered.

An unforgiving spirit is also mentioned, and more than once, as a hindrance to prayer that turns God's face away. In Mark 11:25, 26 Jesus commanded and warned:

"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."

The same teaching is given in Matthew 6:14, 15. And one of the strongest and most moving parables of our Lord Jesus is about the king who freely forgave his servant ten thousand talents and of that servant who abused his fellow-servant which owed him an hundred pence. But the king was angry and turned that wicked servant over to the tormentors and then Jesus said, in Matthew 18:35, "So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses."

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." If you expect to obtain mercy, then be merciful. If you expect Him to forgive your sins, then forgive others. If you expect His face to shine upon you, then turn your face of forgiveness and love to all those who have sinned against you!

Unforgiveness, or grudges, or hatred, will turn God's face away from you when you pray so that He will not hear. Indeed even in our prayers we are commanded to pray, "And forgive us our sins: for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us" (Luke 11:4).

Covetousness, too, may block our prayers. Remember in Malachi 3:8, 9 God said to the Israelites, "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation."

A Jew who did not bring in tithes and freewill offerings besides, was a robber and thief, and under a curse. Surely covetousness is just as great a sin in a New Testament Christian as in an Old Testament Jew, and a Christian ought to love God as well as a Jew. So it does not affect the matter that this passage is in the Old Testament and to Jews under the law. When men do not trust Him about money, do not give Him first of all the increase, do not acknowledge their debt and depend on Him for continued blessings—God is just as displeased with a New Testament Christian as an Old Testament Jew. Those who rob God of what He should justly have are under a curse. Surely that affects our praying. In the New Testament when the Lord says, "Give and it shall be given unto you" (Luke 6:38), He must mean that as we give to God, He will hear our prayers and provide for our needs.

Rebellion, too, is a terrible sin that hinders our prayers. King Saul, instead of obeying the Lord and slaying all the Amalekites and their cattle, brought back King Agag alive and many fine sheep and oxen for sacrifices. But God sent Samuel who said unto him:

"Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt-offerings and sacrifices,"

(Continued on page 9)

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The National Council of Churches

(Continued from page 1)

bodies. The second was the far-reaching Blake-Pike proposals which were made on Sunday, December 4 at the morning service at Bishop Pike's Grace Cathedral, when Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, executive head of the United Presbyterian Church, called for a merger of four denominations. Bishop Pike said such a union "would be the most significant religious event since the Reformation." Dr. James E. Wagner laughingly said the Blake proposal was made with the "loving connivance of Bishop Pike."

Typical of the words of welcome in the special Sunday edition of the San Francisco *Chronicle* was this: "His Holiness Catholicos Zareh I of the Holy See of Cilicia. The Pastor, the Trustees and Parishioners of St. Gregory Armenian Apostolic Church of San Francisco, under jurisdiction of Catholicos Zareh I, greet the General Assembly of the National Council, and wish it every success in its endeavors."

1. The Mood of the Hour

One might think that with the chastening the NCC received as a result of the Air Force Manual that modesty and restraint would characterize these sessions in an attempt to restore lost prestige. But the first thing observers noted was a recklessness and abandon with which they pressed on in their magnificent obsession of union and revolution. No attempt was made to cover up radical ultimate objectives. One could easily detect the lack of caution and restraint.

Dr. Theo. Gill of the San Anselmo Presbyterian Seminary declared in his address: "Everything is up for reconstruction. The image of the church, the image of the minister, the image of the layman, the image of the missionary, the image of worship, the image of evangelism—what does all of theology's recent blowing and wheezing in these areas mean except that some of the baroque and Victorian and futuristic horrors we've had hanging around in our heads are being taken down and stored away in history books to make room for the tentative first sketches of new images drawn after the manner of the church's old masters."

The only thing which slowed up the delegates seemed to be the dramatic Blake proposals for merger. The press said that the delegates were "dazed and amazed." Bill Rose wrote, "Shock waves set in motion by the bold proposal to merge four of the nation's great church bodies continue to spread through the Bay Area assembly of the National Council of Churches today."

Surely nothing about the historic Christian faith caused them to be awed. One speaker cited the statement of a social service worker in Amsterdam who worked in the slums and engaged in Bible storytelling. "When we asked him what he thought of his ministry, about all he said was, 'My job is simply to keep alive the rumor that there is a God.' There are times when I seriously think that with all our power and public acceptance in this land, this is the most we can say for our work." So said Robert W. Spike in an NCC address.

Something more of the mood is seen in the statement by Dr. Theo. Gill, "We don't have the luxury of calm contemplation. The gun is at the church's head. We can never forget that the church is in retreat, that we minister in a situation in which we are already losing."

2. Prominent Program Personalities

The leading personality, if we are to judge by the number of photographs taken and headlines enjoyed, was BISHOP JAMES A. PIKE of the Episcopal diocese of California, with headquarters in Grace Cathedral. Bishop Pike is currently driving with all his might to abolish the congressional investigations into Communist activities in the United States. His shocking statement of unbelief in the *Christian Century* of December 21, 1960, constitutes one of the most blatant attacks upon the Christian faith since the Fostick era when the Riverside pulpit rang out with "The Peril of Worshipping Jesus." It is evident that the seat of radical religion in America has shifted from the Riverside pulpit to Grace Cathedral. One worthwhile ecumenical endeavor might be for church members everywhere to unite in prayer for the conversion of Bishop Pike.

The next in prominence would be DR. THEO. GILL who, together with Bishop Pike, is an editor-at-large of the liberal *Christian Century* magazine. Dr. Gill, who is the president of San Francisco Presbyterian Seminary in Marin County, was in deep theological trouble a year and a half ago in his denomination when much concern was felt over his statement that he could not give allegiance to the doctrine of the Virgin Birth of Christ. *Eternity* magazine and *Christianity Today* also attacked Dr. Gill for his denial of the immortality of the soul. However, since his inauguration at the Seminary he has been heaped with honors from every religious angle. These two are typical of the younger and more vigorous leadership in the National Council.

Heading up the Committee on the Message was DR. HENRY P. VAN DUSEN, whom Dr. Billy Graham cited as a "classic example" of a mass evangelism conversion. Dr. Van Dusen is president of New York's Union Seminary, which is the leading and most influential liberal seminary in the U. S. M. G. Lowman states in *Recognize Red China?*—"More than five hundred faculty and alumni members of Union Theological Seminary have been publicly identified as supporters of Communist fronts."

DR. TRUMAN B. DOUGLASS of the United Church of Christ delivered an address which was the answer to a Communist dream as it extolled the virtues of materialism. The aging BISHOP OXNAM, who is connected with 45 left-wing activities, in *Recognize Red China?* was given a place of honor for a major address on December 6.

DR. EDWIN T. DAHLBERG, retiring president, conducted the Assembly with dignity and competence. Dr. W. B. Riley referred to him as "one of the finest gentlemen of all the modernists I know." Dr. Dahlberg, who is identified with 25 pro-Communist and left-wing activities in the Circuit Riders' book, *660 Baptist Clergymen*, has had a stormy triennium of leadership in relation to patriotic, veteran and anti-Communist groups.

Mention should be made of DR. NORMAN L. CONRAD, chairman of the State-Local Committee on Program and Arrangements. He is the pastor of Glide Memorial Methodist Church, a downtown church, which was known as a strong fundamentalist center of evangelism when Dr. Julian McPheeters was pastor. It was endowed by fundamentalist funds and stands as another example of modernist thievery. Dr. Conrad is the current president of the San Francisco Council of Churches.

3. Opposition to the National Council

REV. LAMAUL PETERSON, Executive Secretary of the Greater Seattle Council of Churches, stated on December 8, "There is a (Continued on page 8)



By Aunt Mary

How I have enjoyed your letters! You know, because what I write you is sent to the printer's three weeks ahead of time, the letters I tell you about are perhaps a month old. But they are just as interesting. This week your letters have been such fun that some I have carried with me about the office and shared with others. Some I have told my family about. I read every one and enjoy each paragraph.

During the holiday season I especially enjoyed every letter from a Kids Korner reader who enclosed a gift for Jesus. And your money did go to help those over the world to hear about our Saviour.

Let me share some of this mail with you:

Dear Aunt Mary:

My father is a preacher. I have two dollars. I am giving it to you for you to give your booklets away. I have twenty-four pets. [A patient mother! I thought.] They are four hamsters, a canary, two guppies, a mother snail with all the rest, which happen to be baby snails. I Love your letters in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. My dog ran away. She must not have liked her birthday party, and the ice-cream and cake.

Sincerely with love,
Lorraine Winn

On the back Lorraine had made an early valentine: "Do you love me? Well I love you." And I do love you, Lorraine. I love you lithe freckle-faced boys. I love you tiny ones whose mothers so patiently read aloud my stories and letters. I love each little girl in pigtails, ponytails, curls and bangs. Yes, and I love you gangly twelve-year-olds who sometimes act like you don't love anybody!

Perhaps you early teen-agers find it hardest to let people you love know it. Since we have two girls your age at our house, I don't forget how you feel and act. Sometimes you may act tough, but we know you are pretty soft inside. We do love you even when you sometimes will not let us show it.

You aren't a sissy? But Jesus wasn't a sissy either. He was a real "He-man" and He let His friends know He loved them. Do you remember how He kept asking Peter, "Lovest thou me?" Often "I love you" is followed by "Do you love me?" as Lorraine wrote to me. When I first studied Latin as a freshman in high school, "Amo te. Amasne me?" was not in the first chapter of my Latin book, but it wasn't very long before I could say, "I love you" in Latin.

Jesus loved people. (He still loves you.) And we should follow His example. But He also commanded us, "Love one another." Perhaps you ought to say sometimes, "I love you." But sometimes you ought to show your love in some special way.

Welcome to eight-year-old Debbie Stufflebeam and her seven-year-old brother Joel, in Wenatchee, Washington. Their mother writes that they each have been saved recently. There are three smaller children in the Stufflebeam family, and we hope they will grow to become *Sword-Bearer's Club* members. Thank you, Mother Stufflebeam, for writing for you all.

Welcome, too, to Margaret Weber of Honesdale, Pennsylvania, and Beulah Bushnell of Binghamton, New York.

An exceptional letter came from Ellen Meyerhoeffer, who is only eight and a half, but writes like a fifth grader. She tells me she got a new Bible for Christmas, and ten days later has already read thirty chapters, a mighty good

record for so small a girl. She and older brother Boyd are reading the Bible through. Her little sister, who got a New Testament, will need to wait awhile. I was really touched that she prays for THE SWORD OF THE LORD and us who work here. She has been a member of the *Sword-Bearer's Club* almost from its beginning. Thank you, Ellen, for your special letter. By now perhaps you will be through reading the book of Le-

Sometime you may be in a room. The door may be locked and the windows closed and barred. There is no way to run. Humanly speaking, there is no way out. But the way out is the way up. If you cannot get out when walled in by temptations, you can look up to God for victory; and then when you get out of that room of sin, stay out of it. If a man knows there is a temptation for him on a certain street, God has provided for that man a mind that can reason; and that man knows, when he is in that town, he should travel another street. Thank God for the practical escapes that He gives us, and thank Him for the supernatural escapes. Remember, now, if we Christians fall into temptation, we are to lean on God and not on the weakness of the flesh. God is strong enough to succor us when we are tempted.—Bob Jones, Sr.

viticus. That one is a little harder, so if you get bored, try reading Psalms for a day or two!

I knew you would enjoy Bill Rice's story last week of Super, his Great Dane dog. Be sure this week to read another incident in that big tail-wagging friend's life. I love you every one!

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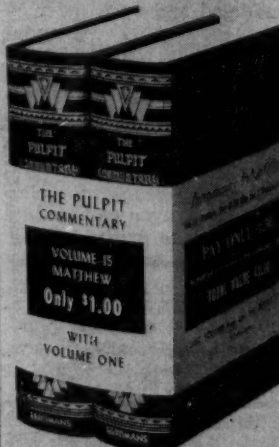
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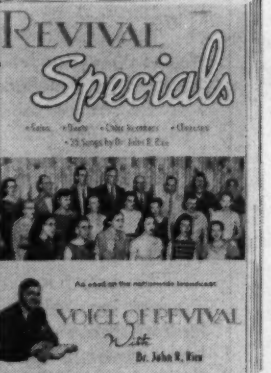
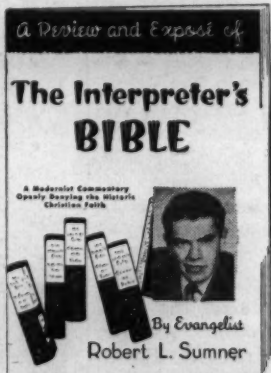
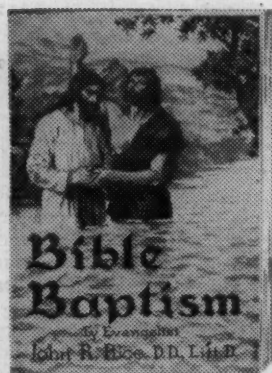
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The National Council of Churches

(Continued from page 6)

mighty ferment taking place in the churches." Actually, the ferment is in a different sense than what he had in mind. In some cases this is approaching near rebellion. There can be no doubt about it but that the continuing attack by Dr. Carl McIntire on the 20th Century Reformation Broadcast is having a hammer-blow effect upon the National Council of Churches. Just a week prior to the opening of the San Francisco NCC Assembly, Dr. McIntire completed arrangements with San Francisco's KSNB as the 124th station in his current drive to add 300 to his network of daily broadcasts.

Three developments during the past year brought NCC prestige to its lowest point since it changed its name from Federal Council in 1950. The first was the Wichita First Baptist Church case in which the largest church in the American Baptist Convention protested the ABC's affiliation with the NCC and, failing to secure a hearing at the Rochester ABC Convention, proceeded to withdraw fellowship from the Convention. The immense size of this 4,500-member church, together with their thorough documentation of modernism, socialism, and subversion of the NCC, along with the attendant national publicity, caused anxiety in NCC leadership circles. About this time the Air Force Manual episode broke, which brought the charge of Red penetration of the NCC into the open. The NCC public relations chief James W. Wine countered with blustery denials and a demand for public book-burning of the Air Force Manual. Frightened politicians jumped to their tune until the whole thing was stopped cold by Chairman Francis Walter's invitation to NCC leaders to appear before the House Un-American Activities and deny the Red allegations under oath. No response. WE CHALLENGE THE NCC LEADERS TO PUT THEMSELVES UNDER OATH and subject themselves to committee questioning concerning Red use of the NCC. Along with all this, the nationwide Mutual network broadcasts of Fulton Lewis, Jr., carried the expose of the NCC softness toward Communism to the people.

Coupled with this was the appearance last year of the Methodist Circuit Riders' book, *Recognize Red China?* which analyzed the left-wing affiliations of one-half of the clergymen who were delegates to the 1958 NCC Fifth World Order Study Conference which called for the recognition of Red China by the U. S. and admittance to the UN. This book stated, "Over the past 20 years, 719 officers (including staff personnel, delegates and representatives) of the Federal Council and the National Council of Churches have been affiliated with one or more organizations and enterprises of a left-wing character." Bishop Oxnham, in his major NCC address of December 6, made obvious reference to this book when he said, "Some so-called practical men look with scorn and sometimes pity upon the so-called idealist of the cloth who wants the social fault-lines removed and violence averted. We are told we must deal with the Baptists and the Francos. Men who seek to hide their stupidity in the cloak of patriotism publish lists of alleged associations of members of a World Order Study Conference which called for a re-examination of our China Policy."

The truth of the matter is that an awakening concern can be discerned not only in a few of the timid clergy identified with the NCC but in a multitude of the laymen who couldn't care less about ecumenics and who still have some love left in their hearts for the good old Book.

4. The Propaganda Barrage

The NCC equipment and facilities for widespread ecclesiastical brain-washing are immense and vast. The mountains of literature which were available and distributed is beyond our comprehension. The exhibits were attractive and elaborate. We were amazed at the extensive bibliographies available in every field of interest. The liberal interdenominational and denominational publishing houses were represented with a tremendous inventory. The Friendship Press of the NCC was pushing three books: *Safe in Bondage*—"a radical new approach to the needs of people in the new American culture"; *Every Tribe and Tongue*, which purports to "analyze the task of the church at home and abroad"; and *One World, One Mission*, which "discusses the far-flung implications of today's 'one world' for the Christian mission."

Plenty of resolutions were passed, such as the one calling for unionization of the agriculture migrant workers. In one convention action, the "heroism" of a Methodist and Roman Catholic in the New Orleans race difficulty was praised. Incidentally, the one priest, Father Jerome Drolet, was listed as a member of the "Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges," which was formed to oppose deportation of Harry Bridges and which was cited as Communist by Attorney General Tom Clark, by HUAC and by California Committee on Un-American Activities.

The press releases were staggering in number and extent. When the whole NCC show was over they simply walked away from their mountains of printed materials and left them for the clean-up crews of the city. One fundamentalist pastor walked off with 130 complete delegate packets which were then mailed out throughout the country to interested people.

5. The Surrender of Billy Graham

The year of 1960 saw Dr. Graham selling his birthright for a mess of ecumenical pottage, with his speaking officially and formally for the first time at the World Council of Churches in Geneva and then for the National Council of Churches in San Francisco. One decade ago Billy was protesting that he would never have a modernist on his platform. However, the *Interchurch News* for November, 1960, listed the speakers for the NCC under "Assembly Who's Who." How sad to see Billy Graham's name listed with Eugene Carson Blake, Franklin Clark Fry, G. Bromley Oxnham, Henry P. Van Dusen, and James A. Pike—not a conservative believer in the crowd. Psalm 1 says, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." The course of compromise is always down.

Dr. Graham's NCC address was given on December 4 at 3 p. m. from the pulpit of Grace Cathedral, at Bishop Pike's invitation. Let it be remembered that Pike is the gentleman who wrote in the *Christian Century*, "The Bible seems to indicate that no one is saved except through Christ . . . To say no one is saved except through the earthly Jesus Christ would be impossible." Graham was no stranger to Grace Cathedral for he was one of the honored guests on May 15, 1958, with a seat on the front row when Dean Pike was consecrated as a bishop. Moreover, Dr. Graham praised

him highly from the platform of the Cow Palace the same night. He had him on the platform to read prayer on May 24 before a nationwide TV audience.

The *San Francisco Examiner* for December 5 stated: "Graham spoke in a program sponsored by the Christian Men's Assembly, held in conjunction with the opening of the meetings of the National Council of Churches." Before 1,800 men in Bishop Pike's Grace Cathedral Sunday afternoon he brought up the French movie star. "Graham offered movie star Brigitte Bardot as an example of a life without commitment. 'She has beauty, money and fame,' he said, 'but she tries to commit suicide.'" We recall his remarks a few years ago in Hollywood to the effect that Jane Russell was a lovely Christian girl, as well as his remarks in the Hollywood Bowl with respect to Ingrid Bergman to the effect that "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone." The *Chronicle* of December 5 quoted him, "I have never thought I would have this opportunity to speak in this great Cathedral." His former fundamentalist friends never thought he would either, especially under NCC auspices. Bishop Pike, who despised his crusade in New York, might have had similar thoughts. "Then he launched a 45-minute sermon on the value of crowds to the Christian movement and the need to 'let Christ have your life.' 'We Protestants have missed something in not recognizing the value of great crowds.'" We can't help but think of poor Jesus who said to His disciples as He saw His crowd disappearing, "Will ye also go away" (John 6:67), when He could just as well have had big crowds by joining forces with Annas and Caiaphas, in a mighty movement with the Pharisees, Sadducees, and Herodians. Think of the prestige if he had had Pilate and Herod on the platform with him. You can imagine how this would have pleased Judas. He was altogether too negative and biblical for the religious leaders.

Dr. Graham, who attended one service in Moscow's only Protestant church some time ago, was quoted in the *News-Call Bulletin* of December 5:

"There may be a greater feeling of commitment in the Soviet Union than there is here in this country. If you want to join the Baptist Church in Russia, you must wait a year before acceptance."

"In his closing prayer, Dr. Graham offered a special petition for the success of the current assembly of the National Council of Churches, and prayed that 'out of this meeting there may come a great message to the Christian world,'" according to the official NCC news release. The main prayer of the service was by Dr. Dahlberg. The benediction was given by Bishop Pike. This is the same bishop who said so recently, "This means that I am more liberal in theology than I was ten years ago . . . the biblical evidence and the theological implications seem to be in favor of assuming that Joseph was the human father of Jesus."

The NCC press release further reported: "Dr. Graham did not close his message with the usual altar call, but he did ask for heads to be bowed and urged those who wanted to make a deeper commitment of their lives to God to raise their hands." He assumed they were Christians. One of the stock excuses given by the backers of Dr. Graham for participating in ecumenical evangelism is to give the message to the modernists who need it so badly. Here he had a golden opportunity to get some of them saved by pressing home the decision, but there was no invitation. In fact, there was little Gospel. When he had the modernists before him, as at Union Seminary and Rochester-Colgate Seminary, he didn't give them an opportunity to respond.

Just prior to the Cathedral address he met with friends for lunch. He had his picture taken for the press with six NCC leaders, including Dr. Dahlberg, president of the NCC, and Lowell Berry, president of the Northern California Council of Churches.

The Executive Committee for Graham's 1958 Cow Palace Crusade was prominent on the NCC Program. DR. CARL HOWIE, co-chairman, was chairman of the NCC Promotion Committee and on the program for December 9. DR. ROBERT B. MUNGER addressed the NCC on December 8, as did Lutheran ROSS F. HIDEY. DR. PAUL SHELFORD was secretary for the Program and Arrangements Committee. JOE R. KENNEDY, the liberal minister in charge of Graham's new converts in 1958, was a chairman of a prominent NCC committee.

No wonder ecumenical leaders are thrilled with Dr. Graham. In *The State*, daily paper for Columbia, South Carolina, the following appeared on November 21, 1960, in an article signed by Tom McMahan: "At the state-wide Lutheran rally in Columbia, Dr. G. Paul Musselman, Executive Director of the Department of Evangelism of the National Council of Churches, spoke in warm terms about the work of Evangelist Billy Graham. He was on the World Council of Churches Evangelistic Conference with Dr. Graham last summer in Switzerland and will be with the evangelist in his Miami crusade next month. 'I call Billy Graham the newest and greatest of the ecumenical voices,' he told this reporter, Tom McMahan, religion editor of *The State*. If people would criticize him less and pray for him more, it would be much better."

The *Oakland Tribune* for December 5 reported on Graham plans: "At luncheon prior to the Cathedral service, Graham announced he is scheduled to hold an evangelistic service in Las Vegas, Nevada, tomorrow evening sponsored by the Hotel Operator's Association. He said the night spots will be closed during the two hours he is conducting the service. The letter of invitation said, 'Las Vegas is wicked. We like it that way but it has become too wicked.' He said he had received a number of telegrams from movie stars offering their best wishes for 'my opening' in Las Vegas."

An enormous bid was made by the NCC for Southern Baptist support by including three prominent SBC ministers on the NCC United Church Men program with which the SBC cooperates: Dr. Billy Graham, former SBC president, Brooks Hays, and Dr. Edwin Dahlberg. Southern Baptists have official representation in six phases of NCC work, according to the June 1960 ABC Crusader—Home Missions, Stewardship, Social Welfare, Evangelism, United Church Men and United Church Women.

6. The Betrayal of the Bible

It became clear at the NCC Assembly that any regard for the Bible would simply be lip service. DR. BLAKE indicated, "Finally, the reunited Church must find the way to include within its catholicity (and because of it) a wide diversity of theological formulation of the faith." So from a standpoint of doctrine, anything goes. He said, "The reformation churches have traditionally found their authority for faith and life in the Scriptures alone. So long as the wording 'sola scriptura' is required, no bridge can be made between

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Reading the Other Side

Going along the street in Logansport one morning, says James Burwick, a businessman from the other side called out to me, "Good morning, Jim!" and crossed over to where I was.

After the usual greetings, I said to him, "Are you saved yet?"

Laughing, he said, "There you go again!" Then he said, "Jim, you ought to read the other side!"

I asked him what the other side was.

He answered, "Did you ever read Socrates?"

Calling him by name, I said, "No, I haven't read Socrates; but, honestly, now, did you ever see a man on his knees thanking Socrates for all that he had and was?"

"No, Jim," he replied, "I never did."

"Did you ever see a good old woman on her deathbed calling her children about her and telling them that whatever they did, to stick to Socrates?"

Again he answered, "No, I never did, Jim."

"You knew old Jim Burwick, didn't you?"

"Yes, I surely did."

"And you know the new Jim. Well, did you ever see such a change made in a man in all your life, by reading Socrates, as has been made in me?"

"No, Jim, I really never did."

"Say, man," I said. "You'd better read the other side!"

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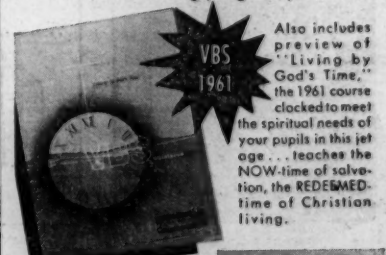
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God Answers Prayer

(Continued from page 5)

as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king"—I Sam. 15:22, 23.

Immediately Saul wanted to pray, but Samuel plainly told him that God would not change His plan, would not hear his prayer about the kingdom. Rebellion turned away God's face from Saul so that He would not hear the king's prayer.

Any kind of secret sin, however trivial it may seem, is yet a terrible thing if it shuts up Heaven to your prayers and separates between you and God.

The Terrible Thing That Sin Does

Sin is a terrible thing. I remind you that sin put Adam and Eve outside of the Garden of Eden and put an angel guard at the gate lest they should return! Nothing but sin did that! It is sin that will keep every lost man out of Heaven and keeps him in the torments of the damned—nothing but sin!

And for the child of God, sin, unconfessed, unrepented, unrepented sin, turns away the face of God from His dear children when they pray. It is only sin that keeps us from all the riches that are in the hands of God. He loves us. His arm is not shortened. His ear is not heavy. He has yet the power and willingness to do for us marvelous things in answer to our prayers. Only our sins keep us from having as much blessing as any man ever did get from God, and more.

Many conditions are named in the Bible if we are to have our prayers answered. One Scripture mentions that we should ask in Jesus' name, another that we should ask in faith, another that we should ask according to His will. But actually, when we boil the matter down we find that only sin keeps us from having everything we ask from God.

If our hearts are right, we will learn the will of God from His Word and by the leading of the Holy Spirit, so we will ask those things that are according to His will. If we have the mind of Christ and abide in Him and His Word abides in us, we can ask whatsoever we will because we will want just the things that Jesus wants. Christians sin when they ask amiss or ask things not in accordance with the will of Christ.

A Christian need not ignorantly go to prayer, wondering if his prayer will please God. A Christian can be so led of the Spirit in his praying that he can have full

The National Council of Churches

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catholic and evangelical. But it is now clear in ecumenical conversations that Protestants generally have come to recognize the right place of tradition, just as Catholics have generally become aware of the rightness of judging all tradition by the Scriptures as interpreted to the Church by the Holy Spirit."

Dr. Blake's neo-orthodoxy pops out all over him when he imagines a Word of God apart from the Bible. "Never before have so many Americans agreed that the Christian churches, divided as they are, cannot be trusted to bring to the American people an objective and authentic Word of God on a political issue."

HERMAN F. REISSIG of the Council of Social Action, in an address on December 8, inspired a newspaper account which headlined, "Sees the Old-Time Religion Ending." "The world will soon see the end of nationalism, racism, colonialism and 'the old-time religion,' it was forecast here today." Fundamentalists may agree because many believe we are nearing the end of this apostate age. "The old-time religion was not fit to survive. Even when it was the old-time liberal religion of American Protestantism, it was not good enough. Thank God this superficial, easy-going religion must now reform itself or go beneath the boiling waters of God's judgment. . . . The next 50 years may be man's finest hour to date. They may also turn out to be his worse." These boiling waters remind me of about fourteen chapters of the Revelation which depict the tribulation judgment of God upon apostate religion. Bible-believing Christians know that this talk about old-time religion simply means the old-fashioned faith.

DR. TRUMAN B. DOUGLASS shows how useless his Bible is with these words, "I think it must be maddening to responsible laymen when ministers tell them that the complex problems of our society can be solved by narrowly 'religious' methods—by a little more prayer, a little more Bible reading, a little more application of the teachings of Christ."

DR. THEO. GILL declares that we must clean out the theological junk we have been collecting over the years. Listen to him on the Trinity, as he speaks on December 7 before the NCC: "These religious images are not just the unanalyzed impressions we have of divinity—God as the bearded Zeus, Jesus as his gentle junior, Holy Spirit as a gimlet-eyed dove endlessly zeroing in. More important are the familiar profiles cut by doctrines and relationships and institutions: images of faith as buying an idea (images of the covenant as a quid pro quo), image of ethics as our wheedling of Almighty God, images of the Kingdom of Heaven as a place or time, images of eternal life as disembodied spirits catapulted to empyrean flitting. This is the kind of image that something has to be done about."

DR. J. CARTER SWAIM, NCC Director of Department of English Bible, set the tone for the entire Assembly with respect to the Bible when he stated in his major address on December 5: "This comes precisely at a time when theologians are assuring us that 'what is primary is not the church nor the Bible but the Word of God. . . . On the other hand, some would not agree to the proposition that the Word of God is more important than the Bible, because they regard them as one and the same. The Bible is the Word of God. Yet the Scripture suggests that the two are not to be equated. Isaiah 40:6 ff. contrasts the permanence of God's Word with the transitory nature of many of the loveliest things which earth affords: 'The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever' . . . Now the prophet did not say, 'The Bible will stand forever' for the simple reason that he did not have the Bible as we know it . . . One who had never heard of Luke or John or Paul cannot have in mind the Bible as we know it when he says: 'the word of our God will stand forever.'" This is a good idea of shallow character of scholarly unbelief.

Dr. Swaim is not through with the Book. Before he throws it

assurance that it pleases God. A Christian can be so surrendered to the will of God, so willing to give up his own will, that what he asks will be really sought because it would honor the Lord Jesus and can be truthfully asked in His name.

Even our lack of faith when we

pray is a sin. And what God has promised we ought to believe. It is a sin not to believe whatever God has said He would do. On other matters where there is not a clear scriptural promise which tells us plainly that God will give us the thing we desire, then if it is a thing that would be good for us, anything pleasing to God, we ought to be near enough to Jesus and so guided by the Holy Spirit that He would give us expected faith. It is our own fault if we do not have faith for anything we have a right to pray for. Faith comes by the Word of God and by looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. God gives faith. Galatians 5:22 tells us faith is one of the fruits of the Spirit. Only sin would keep us from having faith when we ought to have it. It is sin that keeps from us the answers to our prayers. So this Scripture says.

In the dear Saviour's name, I urge each reader to ponder well these words, to memorize them, and by the help of God to search out the sins which grieve His holy heart and hide His gracious face. Sin does so much to hurt the heart of God! And one of the worst things that sin does to Him is this: in holy indignation and loving grief He must turn away His face and stop His ears from His own children whom He loves with such a love as can only be measured by Calvary because of unconfessed and unforsaken sins!

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear"—Isa. 59:1, 2.

on the ash heap he says, "God's best Word to man is not a book but a Person." He has found a new standard by which to judge what is the Word of God. "There is a standard by which it must be judged. A new-found word will commend itself as a living Word if it accords with what is known about the living Lord." And where will we get authentic word about Him? Perhaps we can find the answer to that in tradition. "A professor of theology, in an inaugural address recently delivered, declared his belief that reckoning with tradition would be the next great task of theology. As for himself, he was sure that respectful consideration must be given to what has been believed by many people in many lands across many generations."

"There is a sense in which the Bible is still an open-ended book." He cites Mark's Gospel as one with an unfinished ending, after higher criticism has chopped off what it likes. There is nothing to stop someone from writing Scriptures today. "If this be the case, may it not be true that the line between Scripture and tradition is not so sharp as we have imagined?" All of this will help to soften up the people for the acceptance of tradition when they finally get back to Rome. Dr. Swaim closes his blasphemous address with these deceptive words, "We beg you, therefore, to heed God's living Word as it comes to you through the Scriptures." The Word is not the same as the Scriptures but somehow mysteriously it can come through the Scriptures.

BISHOP PIKE'S ideas fit right in here beautifully. "But the church is not under the judgment of the Bible finally, because the Bible is the work of members of the church, and didn't get gathered except as members of the church finally gathered it . . . the Bible came along as a sort of Reader's Digest anthology. If the Bible is not important as a primary text, it is, to use a lawyer's phrase, 'the best evidence'" (Christian Century, Dec. 21).

Paul wrote to Titus about the "common faith" (1:4), but Bishop Leslie Newbigin made it clear as reported in the General Assembly News of December 8 that ecumenical unity had little to do with confessional agreement—"United in the truth does not necessarily mean 'unanimity in verbal statements,' he said. Such unity is constituted 'not by consent to a set of beliefs but the action of the living Lord who commands us to follow Him.' In a real sense we do not know the truth except as we obey and do."

This can be summed up in the words of DR. WM. A. NORGREN, Director of Faith and Order studies for the NCC: "In our prayer for unity we should turn our attention away from dogmatic divergences, and concentrate instead on the profession of baptismal faith which is at the heart of Christianity . . . We have also learned, however, that the way of 'integralism,' a rigid exclusion of all that does not accord with a predetermined theological system, offers no hope. The one Church of the future will be truly ecumenical only as it embraces the fullness of the past. It will emerge only when historical tensions and differences between various conceptions of faith—Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox or Anglican—are composed." These words were found in an address in the delegate's packet.

So with the Bible removed as a formidable roadblock, the path is clear. Dr. Norgren says: "Today the ecumenical movement is moving into a new stage characterized by extension and complication. It is now for the first time engaging virtually the whole of the Christian world; Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox and Roman Catholic. Particularly significant is the emergence of the great churches of the East from their isolation (or we from ours), bringing about a confrontation of theology, of philosophy, of cultures, not paralleled since Roman times."

(To be continued next week)

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The Judgment

(Continued from page 1)

put any more pressure on the means of grace. I will never bring any more to bear from Heaven. Now there is nothing left for you but to get ready to meet your God.

Why Prepare

Now I am going to tell you why every sane, intelligent man and woman should prepare to meet God: Because it is God you have to meet, not the President of the United States, not the ruler of Germany, nor the king of England, or any other ruler. It is not

Michael or Gabriel, or archangels or cherubim, but prepare to meet God, and not only God, but thy God, the God who made you, the God who fashioned your body, the God who created your soul, the God who preserved your being, the God who sent His Son to die for you; who gave His Spirit to con-

vince you and to enlighten you; the God who knows your secret thoughts; the God who knows your sensibilities, purposes, affections, and will; who knows every covered up, hidden, veneered-over sin in your life, and every wicked word that you ever uttered, and every wicked thought that ever percolated through your brain; the One who knows all about those dark deeds in the dead of the night—that is the God you are to meet; who knows all about your life and character, a God who doesn't play any favorites; who is no respecter of persons; a God who cannot look upon sin with any degree of allowance; the God whose love you have spurned, whose mercy you have rejected, whose Spirit you have grieved—that is the God you are to meet.

If the Bible is true, every person sitting here before me will one of these days stand in the presence of the Almighty God. When, I do not know. I only know that the judgment day is set and death is on our tracks and eternity is hanging out yonder in view, and our lamp of life will soon be extinguished, and our race will soon be run, and we will drift out with the tide, and stand in the presence of the Kings of kings and Lord of lords.

Where is the meeting place? I don't know, but the day will come when the law of gravitation will be unanchored, the world moved out of its place, and underneath it for the floor the air will be made buoyant by the hand of the Almighty God, and the architecture of atmospheric galleries will be strong enough to hold up worlds. It may be ten years from today for some of us; ten months from today for many of us; ten hours from today, no doubt, for some of us. I cannot say; I only know that we are rushing to the cemetery and the presence of God.

Brother, if the meeting should take place tonight, are you ready? If Jesus Christ should split the sky and break in on the world, in the glory of His form, the glory of His omnipotence, in the glory of His holiness, justice and love, with all the holy angels, would you be prepared to stand in the presence of an unveiled and uncovered God as He descended to meet the human race in an interview?

You say, "I am as good as the average." That may be true, but you are not going to be judged by the average.

You say, "I never did anyone any harm."

That has nothing to do with the case. There is many a rattlesnake lying out yonder in the hills of North Carolina that has never done anyone any harm. A mad dog dashes down the street with his eyes green and foam flying out of his mouth. He has never done anyone any harm, but you are not going to let your child fondle and play with him because he hasn't. There is no difference between being wrong and doing wrong, and the reason you do wrong is because you are wrong, and the reason you are wrong is because you won't yield to God. And if you are prepared to meet God it is because you are a Christian.

You say, "I am a moral man." Morality is not Christianity. You can be a moral man and not be a Christian, but you can't be a Christian and not be a moral man. The men who crucified Jesus passed off as moral men, too.

Judgment Inevitable

This meeting is inevitable, "for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done whether it be good or bad"—you and I, good and bad, saint and sinner, millionaire and pauper, society woman and wash-woman, general and private, white and black, of every stratum of society and every walk of life. What reversals of all earthly conditions, what shattering of conventionalities, what upheaval of social positions! The king will be there without his sceptre, the soldier without his uniform, the bishop without his authority, the millionaire without his gold, the convict without his chains, the beggar without his rags.

You may not be ready to meet God, you may not want to meet

Him, you may call upon the rocks and the mountains and the hills to fall upon you and hide you from His face. They won't do it. The edict of God Almighty has gone forth; you shall meet Him. It may be death and eternal Hell for you to meet Him, but you must meet Him.

Now, since it is a fact, will you slight all of God's warnings that He has given you, live as you live, and die unprepared, and go into God's presence without any preparation at all? Now, you are a free moral agent and God and the Bible and Christ and eternity cannot save you against your will.

Now I want to ask you, Do you propose to live in sin and in iniquity and serve the Devil and go to the judgment with your tattered, filthy garments of sin and corruption, with the blood on your feet instead of your heart? Will (Continued on page 11)

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After a long and costly search, reprints of the original 1879 revised editions of the famous McGuffey's Readers have been completed and you can now purchase exact copies at the following low prices POST-PAID:

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"Remedies and Rackets," a new book by James Cook exposing the truth about patent medicine practices, reveals startling facts in authoritative reporting.

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Searching the Scriptures

Exodus 12

God Brings His People Out of Egypt

by Elizabeth Handford

The night God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt was a night that would be commemorated by Jews for hundreds of years to come. There is probably no clearer picture in all the Old Testament of our salvation from sin by Jesus' death. I Corinthians 5:7 tells us plainly that "even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us." The passover tells us that the angel of death is coming in judgment on every household, except those covered by the shed blood. Not only does blood have to be shed (not enough simply to pick a lamb from the flock—it must be slain) but the blood has to be applied (it had to be sprinkled on the door posts). So Jesus died for the sins of the whole world, but only those who will accept Him are protected from God's wrath. Look for the many other significant requirements God made: why a lamb? why without blemish? why a male? why roast with fire without water? why eaten with unleavened bread? why eaten with bitter herbs? why not leave any of it? why eat it in haste? why not break a bone of it? All these things tell us something about the precious Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

CLUES ACROSS

- 1 "when he smote ----- Egyptians"
- 4, 56 "the ----- shall not be upon you to ----- you when I smite the land"
- 8 "----- that my words were now written" Job 19
- 10 son of Matthat (Luke 3:23, 24)
- 12 prophetess who lived in temple (Luke 2:36)
- 14 son of Judah (Gen. 38:6)
- 15 habitual drunkard
- 17 "----- of potters' clay, and part of iron" Dan. 2
- 18 "Thou must give us also sacrifices and ----- offerings" Exod. 10
- 20 "For all the promises of God in him are yea and in him -----" II Cor. 1
- 22 "ye ----- let nothing of it remain until the morning"
- 23 "there was ----- a house where there was not one dead"
- 24 "this day shall ----- unto you for a memorial"
- 26 "Saul ----- David from that day and forward" I Sam. 18
- 27 "observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to ----- sons for ever"
- 28 "wherefore hast thou so ----- entreated this people?" Exod. 5
- 30 "It hath consumed ----- of Moab" Num. 21
- 32 "This is Jesus the King of the -----" Matt. 27
- 36 grandson of King Solomon (Matt. 1:7)
- 38 "when he seeth the blood ----- the lintel"
- 40 "Rise up, and get ----- forth from among my people"
- 41 "It is a night ----- be much observed unto the Lord"
- 42 "----- favoured and leanfleshed" Gen. 41
- 43 a common spiny-finned fish
- 45 progenitor of Christ who built ark (same as Noah) Luke 3
- 46 "Be not ----- with thy mouth" Eccles. 5
- 48 "----- that seek me early shall find me" Prov. 8
- 50 initials of first woman and first baby (Gen. 4:1)
- 51 "God confirmed it by an -----" Heb. 6
- 54 "----- here is Christ, or there; believe it not" Matt. 24

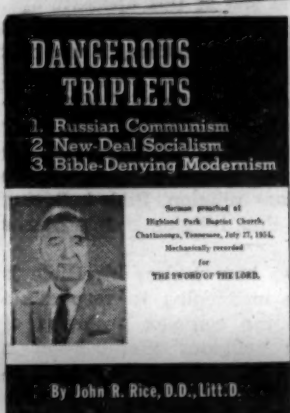
- 55 "he shall ----- as one born in the land"
- 56 see 4 across
- 57 "when I see the blood, I will pass over -----"

CLUES DOWN

- 1 "they spoiled ----- Egyptians"
- 2 "and with bitter ----- they shall eat it"
- 3 Hebrew word for God
- 5 "if the household be too ----- for the lamb"
- 6 "even we ourselves ----- within ourselves" Rom. 8
- 7 "Whosoever ----- leavened bread from the first day"
- 8 "----- law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger"
- 9 "ye shall eat it in ----- it is the Lord's passover"
- 11 "the children of ----- went away, and did as the Lord had commanded"
- 13 father of Jehoshuah (I Chron. 7:27)
- 16 "that which every man must eat, that ----- may be done"
- 19 initials of two kings to whom Isaiah ministered (Isa. 1:1)
- 21 "where ----- and rust doth corrupt" Matt. 6
- 25 "they lent unto them such things as they -----"
- 29 "Repent, and turn yourselves from your -----" Ezek. 14
- 30 small town which defeated Israel (Josh. 7)
- 31 "the children of Israel journeyed from ----- to Succoth"
- 33 "the ----- of the Lord is upon them that fear him" Ps. 33
- 34 "Thou art -----, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power" Rev. 4
- 35 "so that they lent unto them ----- things"
- 36 "nor sadden ----- all with water"
- 37 "neither shall ye break a ----- thereof"
- 39 "this people shall also go their ----- in peace" Exod. 18
- 44 "in the first day there shall be a ----- convocation"
- 47 "when the sun waxed -----, it melted" Exod. 16
- 49 name of locks between Lake Superior and Lake Huron
- 52 same as 30 across
- 53 "even the selfsame day it came ----- pass"

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prompt answers to
Puzzle Number 5



The times in which we live are fraught with many dangers. The imminence of world conflict, the struggles of various social orders and the threats of despotic ideologies are sources of continuous mental turmoil. It is imperative to the perpetuation of our religious heritage that we keep abreast of developments.

The pamphlet, **DANGEROUS TRIPLETS** is a sermon which was preached by Dr. John R. Rice at Highland Park Baptist Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on July 27, 1954. Its message is even more pertinent now than it ever was. In the sermon Dr. Rice deals with 1. Russian Communism, 2. New-Deal Socialism and 3. Bible-Denying Modernism. He shows how alike they are in their subtle perniciousness. Holding them up to the powerful searchlight of the Scriptures Dr. Rice exposes their errors. Then he makes a strong appeal to Christians to stand firm for Christ and the Bible.

This is an up-to-the-minute sermon. Its challenge is one which every Christian needs to face.

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2. PRINT name and address in blank below puzzle. This coupon serves as your address label for envelope containing your prize. If you print your answers on a separate sheet in order to not cut your SWORD, put them in the same form as the puzzle rather than in columns. Entries will not be returned.

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4. Each person having a correct entry will receive a coupon along with the weekly prize. Save these coupons! Your January 27 issue of THE SWORD carried the news of these special prizes: Bible with concordance or Rainbow edition of the Bible for young readers (King James Version) for 48 coupons; a compact and easy to handle Bible (King James Version) for 40 coupons; Illustrated Bible Geography and Atlas for 25 coupons.

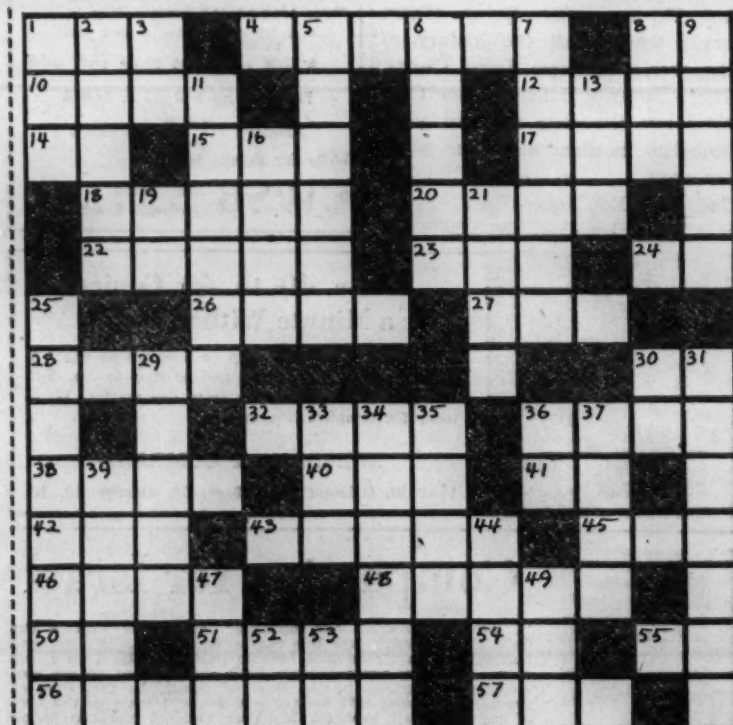
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AND THY HOUSE
N YES IS UREA
DO COME OR S
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SO ET BE U
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Puzzle No. 5



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The Judgment

(Continued from page 10)

you go right into the presence of the great God unwashed and unregenerated and unpardoned and unsaved? Every day performs a funeral march down to the grave, and up to God, and without Jesus Christ you are absolutely unprepared. The Book says that "it is appointed unto man once to die." Now you may not believe that it is appointed unto man once to die. I can walk these streets and see the caved-in chests and emaciated faces, with eyes sunken in the sockets of their heads, and I say, "What does that mean?" That the Bible is true; "it is appointed unto man once to die."

I go out to your hospital and see it filled with pale-faced, suffering humanity. What does it mean? "It is appointed unto man once to die." I go to your undertaker's shops and I see caskets and coffins. What does it mean? "It is appointed unto man once to die." I see the funeral processions tramp, tramp, tramp, down the street of your city; what does it mean? "It is appointed unto man once to die." I go out yonder to your cemeteries and see those white, lonesome sentinels. What does it mean? "It is appointed unto man once to die."

A Dialogue With Death

O man, Death is coming down the road; soon that pale horse will turn the corner and after a while he will stop in front of your home and run through a closed door, and will stand in your presence and you will say, "Who is there?"

"I am death."

"I did not send for you."

"No, I know you did not, but I have come."

"I am not ready."

"That makes no difference. You have had all your life to get ready. I have come."

"But I cannot go."

"You must go. I have come for my own. I have been following you from the cradle to this house."

"But hold on Death. My God! My God!"

"Oh, you said there was no God. You grieved His Spirit; you shook your head and resisted the truth; you laughed and sneered when thousands of people were going to the tent and hundreds were giving their hearts to God. You laughed and criticized the preacher, and said it was all fanaticism and excitement. Come on, get ready."

"O Death, I cannot go."

"You must go."
"O Death, don't crowd me so to the wall; don't breathe that cold air in my face; you chill me."
"But come—I want you."

"O Death, all my people are here, and all my interests are in this city; send for the doctor; rush me to a sanatorium; get me to the hospital; hire a nurse. Oh, drive death away; my feet are growing cold; the rattle is in my breast; the gurgle is in my throat; the cold death dew is breaking out on my brow."

"You have a week to live. You have five days. Three days. Two days. One day. Twelve hours. One hour. Forty minutes. Thirty minutes. Twenty minutes. Ten. Five. Two. One. You have forty seconds. Thirty. Twenty. Ten. I will count them: One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten. Telephone for the undertaker: Take him to the graveyard—he is gone."

"It is appointed unto man once to die, and then the judgment." If you admit the first proposition of the text, how can you have the audacity to reject the last part? If the first part is true the last part is true. John, when he was on that bleak, lonely isle of Patmos, said:

"And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondsman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Rev. 6:12-17).

The Greatest Earthquake

We have had some great earthquakes in this country: the Charleston, San Francisco and Messina, but the greatest earthquake that this world has ever known is going to be when the sixth seal is opened and Jesus rolls through and rolls on and rolls down in His glory while suns are fainting, and stars are being wrung from their sockets in the skies, and the moons bleeding, and graves are bursting, and worlds are crumbling, and the elements burning. We have had some great prayer meetings, but here will be the greatest prayer meeting that this world has ever known. The kings of the earth, great men and rich men, and influential men, mighty men, laboring men, millionaires and paupers, will be on their faces crying to the mountains and rocks to fall on them and hide them from His presence. Jesus Christ is no longer their Saviour but their Judge.

One day in a Western city a gentleman driving a team of horses down the street, lost control of them. They were running furiously when a gentleman sprang from the sidewalk and at the risk of his own life caught the bridle reins and threw the horses back and saved the man's life.

By singular coincidence this man whose life was saved was on trial for his life. The crime charged against him was murder, and by a more strange and remarkable coincidence the judge trying him was the man who had stopped his runaway team.

The trial is over; the attorneys have finished their pleas; the jury has returned its verdict, and the judge is saying to the man on trial, "Have you anything to say why the sentence of death should not be placed upon you?"

Before the Bar

He arose trembling and said, "Your Honor, I do not think you know me."

And the judge said, "You must answer my question."

But he said again, "Your Honor, you surely do not know me. I am

the man whose life you saved once. I beseech you, have mercy now."

And the judge said, "I do remember you, and I am extremely sorry for you, but then I was your saviour and today I am your judge, and sentence must be passed."

He is our Saviour now, able to save to the uttermost; but if we continue to resist, He will become the Judge, and God pity us if we are not prepared to meet Him.

We have had some great days in this country. It was a great day when Jehovah's God came down on Sinai's melting summit amid lightning bolts, deafening thunders, and heaving earthquakes and launched the Mosaic dispensation. It was a great day when a covey of golden-winged angels on that first Christmas morning flew around the mountains of Bethlehem and announced to some humble shepherds that the Christ of prophecy had been born that morning. It was a great day when He hung on the cross with the spittle running down His face and the blood trickling down His cheek, and He dropped His head on a pulseless breast and shouted, "It is finished," while the sun was hiding its face and graves were bursting and the veil of the temple was being rent from top to bottom. It was a great day when the Third Person of the Trinity took up the reins of government while forked tongues of flaming fire sat on every brow and flooded the room with an unearthly illumination.

But the greatest day that this world has ever seen will be when the Son of Man shall come in His glory with great publicity. "When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats" (Matt. 25:31, 32).

An Incident

An evangelist returned home from a northern campaign and his wife met him at the door and said, "Mr. Zachey, the sheriff, is dying. He always had great respect for you, although he never allowed a preacher in his home. Won't you go and see him? It may be that you can help him."

He went over, was admitted to his room, and stepped to the bedside of the old hardened infidel who was dying. He looked down on his pale, emaciated face, brushed the hair back from his forehead, and said, "Sheriff, the doctors tell me you haven't long to live."

The old man's eyes seemed to flash fire. He struggled and raised himself up in the bed and, with a sickly, resentful smile, said, "John, I went through the Mexican war; I fought through the war of the Confederacy; I was in twenty-six battles; I heard the cannons roar and the shells burst, and the bullets whistle. I have charged against walls of bayonets; I have walked over the dead and dying, and waded blood in the midst of fire and smoke, and I am not afraid of the enemy that you call death." He fell back on the pillow exhausted from the effort.

For a few minutes the preacher didn't know what to say. Then he leaned over the old sheriff as he panted and struggled for breath and again brushed the hair back and said, "Mr. Zachey, it may be true that you are not afraid of death, but what about the judgment? Are you ready for that?"

The old man gazed at him for a moment and his face turned deathly pale, and the tears trickled down his cheeks like bubbles on a stream and he said, "The judgment—I hadn't thought about that. What if it's true? What if there is a Heaven and Hell? I'm lost! I'm lost! I am on the brink of Hell!"

A Most Important Meeting

Another reason why we should prepare to meet God is because of the supreme importance of that meeting. "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

No doubt some of you people are acquainted with science. You can take the telescope and scan the heavens and fit the planets, and never see the star of Bethlehem. Suppose you can take the geologist hammer and go down into the mighty deep, and tell us of the secret of the dark depths below, and never strike the Rock of Ages. Suppose you do understand botany and never inhaled the perfume of the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley. Suppose you can look at the newspapers in the morning, and run up the many columns of the money market, and tell us of the world's finances at a glance and never reckon what sum if we gain the whole world and lose our own souls.

There is no danger of a man getting too much religion if he will mix a little common sense with it. Now, suppose that we use a little gray matter along with our religion as well as our business. You doctors consider it very important to make preparations for your patient. You lawyers work night and day preparing for your clients. You merchants are everlastingly preparing to please your customers. You farmers are working from morning till night preparing your farm. These questions are very important, but as much higher as Heaven is than earth, so much higher is the greater importance of preparing to meet your God than all these other things.

Isn't it strange that a man who is considered sensible will attach so much importance to making preparations to look after his clients, patients, merchandise, and farm and temporal and financial affairs and then make no preparation for eternity? No preparation for a soul that is going to live on and on when time is a story and this old world is a cinder! No preparation for that meeting on which hinges Heaven or Hell, eternal glory or eternal despair!

I pray that the dust may be washed out of your eyes with water that makes glad the City of God and that you may see these things in the light of God's truth. Go on as you are going—break God's commands, grieve the Spirit, reject Christ, trample on the blood, spurn the truth, choke the Scriptures, take all of your time for business, silver, gold, corn, cotton, politics, earthly things, earthly treasures. After a while that lost and doomed spirit of yours will start up to meet its God, and as you look at that celestial world of light and then

look back at this poor old world that is melting and crumbling away for which you lost your soul, and then lost the world too, as you are poised on wings between Heaven and earth, like Satan of old you will cry, "Which way shall I fly?" Infinite wrath; infinite despair.

Prepare to Meet the Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Omniscient God

Prepare to meet your God tonight. Why? Because He is omnipotent. He is possessed of all power; He throws planets into space; He fixes stars and controls universes. He hung this old world in space like a great cannon ball and it has been moving with perfect precision ever since. When I stand here and gaze out into limitless space, the very heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament proves His omnipotence.

If I could take an auger and bore a hole in the top of the sun, (Continued on page 12)

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The Judgment

(Continued from page 11)

I could pour into it one billion four hundred thousand worlds the size of the earth upon which we live, and there would still be room in the sun for more. I look out yonder at old Mars 260,000,000 miles away. I would have to travel 49,000 miles per hour before I would roll into its grand central station in two years' time. Jupiter is 480,000,000 miles away; Saturn, 885,000,000 miles away; old Uranus, 1,780,000,000 miles away. It travels around the sun once in 84 years going at the speed of 250 miles per hour. The North Star travels at the rate of speed of 192,000,000 miles a second. It would take me 45 years to reach that planet. If I would pay three cents a mile it would cost me \$720,000,000.00 to pay for my ticket. The God who made these stars and planets and threw them out from the tips of His fingers—that is the God whom I am begging you to prepare to meet.

Second, He is an omnipresent God—that is, He is everywhere. The Psalmist had it right when in the 139th Psalm, seventh to the twelfth verses, he said:

"Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?"

"If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there."

"If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

"Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

"If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me."

Light travels at the rate of 185,600 miles a second, but God moves faster than that.

Third, He is omniscient—that is, He knows all things. You may deceive me and you may deceive others, but you cannot deceive God. If all these things are true, you must prepare to meet Him.

How Prepare to Meet God?

How should I prepare to meet God? We will let the Book do its own talking. God Almighty knows that men are not prepared to meet Him, and He shows us how we may prepare.

First, He says, let the wicked forsake his way, his life of wickedness, conduct, habits, companionship, and outward life.

Second, let him forsake unrighteous thoughts, that is, his plans, inside life, ideas, sinful desires, and evil intentions. What next? Let him return to God. You see, here are three things for you to do, then God will do two things: Have mercy on him. Mercy is in the heart and nature of God. Second, abundantly pardon. Pardon is the expression of that mercy.

Now, are you willing to go to God and say, "I have been an old adulterer, blasphemer, drunkard, gambler, sponsor of harlotry, and panderer, and I am sorry for these things and, God, I will forsake them and never do it again?"

Some of you church members who know no more about the new birth than a creature of the brute world, ought to fall on your knees and say, "God, I have been looking on the church as a kind of a mutual congratulation society, social endeavor or third rate amusement bureau. I have been substituting churchanity for Christianity, church activities for spirituality, religiousness for righteousness, morals for the new birth, confirmation, baptism, communion, and other religious paraphernalia for vital godliness. Deep down in my heart of hearts I know that I have never been born again, and I want to come to Thee through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ and accept Him as my Saviour and confess Him before the world and live in accordance with that confession."

And when you do, you will be changed from nature to grace, and a new name will go on the Book of Life, and you will be prepared to stand in His presence on that day for which all other days were made. This is not going to be any mock judgment. We are going to be judged as we are and not as we seem to be, and the only thing that will stand is character. Not only character outside, but character inside; character of heart, character of choice, character of allegiance and character of affections.

There will be just two groups at the judgment—those that are for and against; Christ-accepters and Christ-rejecters. We are not going to be divided by three, six or nine, but by two. Two char-

acters, two destinies, two estates, two dominions, two eternities. A tremendous and all-comprehensive and all-decisive and everlasting two.

Are you prepared to meet God?

"And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them."

"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

"And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works" (Rev. 20:11-13).

Stenographic report of sermon, as preached in Lincolnton, North Carolina. (From *The Story of My Life and Other Sermons* by Baxter F. McLendon.)

The Editor Urges the Reader, "Prepare to Meet God"

I heard Baxter McLendon preach, "Cyclone Mack" he was called, and he preached with vigor and power. I remember how his black mane shook as he poured out the words in a torrent, and how piercing were his black eyes. Now he has gone to Heaven, but we print again his appeal to sinners.

Sinner, will you today prepare to meet God? That means to hon-

estly repent of your sins and turn to Christ for mercy, trusting Him to forgive your sins and change your heart. Will you do it today?

If you will honestly, today, turn your heart to Jesus Christ, confess to Him that you are a sinner, earnestly depend upon Him, rely upon Him, trust Him to be your own Saviour here and now, I want you to write me and say so. In Christ's name, decide today! Say yes to Jesus Christ in your heart, then sign the following statement and mail it to me today. Go on record in your own heart and before God and men that you today, with all your heart, prepare to meet God! I will greatly rejoice to have your letter and will send you a letter of counsel and encouragement. Copy and mail the following statement today if you can honestly do it with a sincere heart.

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420,
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I have read Evangelist Baxter McLendon's sermon on "The Judgment." I admit that I am a poor guilty sinner who needs salvation. The best I know how, I here and now turn from my sins and trust Jesus Christ to forgive my sins and save my soul. With all my heart I accept Him as my personal Saviour and rely on Him to save me and keep me. By His help I purpose to live for Him and claim Him openly before men as my Saviour.

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Over 1200 enrolled



Dr. Otis R. Holmes
Tabernacle Baptist Church
Wilson, North Carolina



Rev. Harold L. Scholes
Gateway Baptist Church
West Seattle, Wash.

The Editor in India

(Continued from page 4)

lock carts than trucks. On big concrete construction work laborers carry the concrete in pans on their heads. I see many women carrying baskets of bananas, tomatoes, and once, of stone, baskets holding a bushel or more. Yet there are forty colleges and a great university here; many are well-to-do; India is striving to become self-sufficient, manufacturing all its needs.

Revival Despite Difficulties

We are having a blessed revival, with scores saved, under difficulties that would seem to make success impossible. We have no choir, the meetings have invariably begun late. People accustomed to small crowds and careless ways do not do the things I have learned are essential to make a crowd interested and eager. Each night a different pastor or missionary presides, makes long announcements, all with an interpreter. They feel the thing must be passed around, thus the Christian workers all feel unsighted, but the service drags; there is much slack, wasted time. A lot of Indian musicians are used, much of it poor, all of it slack, poorly prepared, taking lots of time to get ready, get instruments, etc. I, who have made a life work of evangelism, have had the best song leaders in the world, have had carefully organized and conducted campaigns, feel so grateful that God gives great blessings despite the handicaps. He blesses these good men who, without experience, do the best they know, with holy zeal and prayer.

Today I Preach at a Wedding

Yes, at 4:00 p.m. today, I preach the Gospel at a wedding. Both bride and groom are Christians. It is customary for Christian weddings to have preaching, many loved ones are unsaved. So they want me to preach a full sermon. May God save souls!

God willing, I shall leave Bombay by Air India plane, jet, at 1:00 a.m. following Sunday night's closing of the evangelistic campaign. I will arrive in Chicago, God willing, near midnight, or past, Monday night or Tuesday morning, January 24. I will fly by jet plane the nearly 12,000 miles. How glad to be home!

When we pray for rain we must be willing to put up with some mud.